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Drawing 241

Plant

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# Curios and Relics

## Plants

## Trees

## Associated with Lincoln

Excerpts from newspapers and other sources

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ORIGINALS IN THE ILLINOIS STATE HISTORICAL LIBRARY

ISHAM, LINCOLN & BEALE, COUNSELORS

Edward S. Isham  
Robert T. Lincoln  
William G. Beale

March 30, 1888

Charles F. Mills, Esq.,

Secretary, State Board of Agriculture,

Springfield, Ills.

Dear Sir:-

In reply to your favor of yesterday, I remember having heard my father speak more specially of the hard maple as a tree which gratified him by its beauty.

Yours very truly,

Robert T. Lincoln

**A Historic Tree.**

The oak tree under whose branches Abraham Lincoln and Stephen A. Douglas held a political debate in 1858, is still standing in Bloomington, Ill., in the yard of E. M. Bowen. It appears to be centuries old. In 1858 the tree marked an inclosure then known as Hinshaw's pasture, a former public meeting place. George Hinshaw, the owner, was a Democrat. He arranged to have the debate there, being an admirer of Douglas. The two candidates for United States Senator had engaged in a series of debates, and the one held in Bloomington attracted voters from far and near. A platform for the candidates was constructed directly under the boughs of this old oak. Its shade protected the audience as well as the speakers. Only three men are now living in Bloomington who heard the famous orators. They are John Dawson, Adam Guthrie and W. S. Depew.

1802

### First Monument to Lincoln

The first monument in honor of Abraham Lincoln was a little cedar tree planted in his memory by a boyhood companion who mourned the removal of the Lincolns from the backwoods of southern Indiana to the State of Illinois.

3/2/09  
C. F. ...



# Discoverer of the Big Trees

By REV. THOMAS B. GREGORY

November 20, 1841.

**J**OHNN BIDWELL did not discover America, or the planet Jupiter, or the X-Rays, but he discovered the "Big Trees" of California, and the great find was made on or about this day seventy-two years ago—November 20, 1841.

The mighty Sequoia of Calaveras County are among the "wonders" of the world, and are easily the most remarkable of trees in age and size, being from two to four hundred feet in height and from fifteen to forty feet in diameter. A fallen trunk is said to have measured 18 feet in diameter 300 feet from the base. The "Keystone State," the tallest of the Sequoia now standing, measures 325 feet in height and 94 feet around at the base.

As to the age of the big trees it can only be said that it must be immense. A high authority declares that a tree has no limit set by nature to the term of its existence, its decay being the result of accident rather than of any law inherent in its nature.

There are several trees that are known to be very ancient—the Lombardy Cypress, for whose sake the

great Napoleon bent one of his military roads out of the straight line, is known to be as old as the time of Caesar. The Cedars of Lebanon date back to the time of Solomon. The Saintes Oak is 2,000 years old. The Mount Etna Chestnut is known to have stood since the foundation of Rome. The Yew of Braburne is 2,500 years old; and the Cypress of Santa Maria del Tale is declared by no less an authority than the late Professor Asa Gray to be over 4,000 years old.

But it is claimed that the big trees of California are much older than any of those just mentioned. They were probably standing on the noble plateau, 5,000 feet above the Pacific, at the time old King Cheops began the building of his great pyramid by the Nile. It is possible, and probable, that the giant conifers of the Sierras are more ancient than any monument erected by the hands of man, yes, older than civilization itself.

At any rate, the big trees are among the most interesting things on the planet, appealing to us with their hoary age as scarcely anything does in all the world.

1413



# LINCOLN MEMORIAL TREES ARE PLANTED

9 28 1915

Woman's Relief Corps Has  
Charge of Exercises at  
Monument Site.

## PLAN CALLS FOR AVENUE OF ELMS TO MONUMENT

Memorial Well Under Way, But Will  
Not Be Completed for  
Three Years.

With simple but impressive ceremony, the Woman's Relief Corps today dedicated the ground upon which will stand the two trees nearest the Lincoln memorial in Potomac Park in the avenue of trees which will make a vista from the memorial to the Washington Monument.

David J. Palmer, commander-in-chief of the Grand Army of the Republic, turned the first spadeful of earth, and he was succeeded in turning the soil by Mrs. W. E. Andrews, chairman of the committee in charge of the tree planting; Mrs. Sarah E. Fulton, national president of the W. R. C.; Mrs. Mary E. Jameson, national president of the Ladies of the G. A. R.; Mrs. Isabel Worrell Ball and others.

### Trees Must Be Replanted.

Two English elm trees were planted by the W. R. C. today, the ceremony beginning at 1:30 o'clock. Owing to the fact that the terrace around the Lincoln memorial must be graded, the trees put in place today are only temporarily planted. As soon as the grading has been completed they will be planted permanently in the locations corresponding to those selected today. Later markers of bronze will be placed on the trees by the W. R. C.

Miss Ruth Ayder, a graduate of George Washington University and the organizer of the glee club at the university last year, sang "The Star Spangled Banner" and "Our Country's Flag." The words and music of the latter song were written by Mrs. Mary Litz-Parker, who recently organized G. A. R. Logan Circle, No. 4, W. R. C. The veterans and members of the Relief Corps joined in the chorus.

Thousands of the members of the G. A. R. and the W. R. C. attended the tree planting, and when the ceremonies were completed they went immediately to the polo field in Potomac Park to witness a cavalry drill. The visiting members of the G. A. R. and the W. R. C. viewed with much interest the progress of the work on the erection of the \$2,000,000 Lincoln memorial. While the work on this memorial is well up to time set in all contracts, it was said today by former Senator Joseph C. S. Blackburn of Kentucky, the resident commissioner in charge of the Lincoln memorial, that not for another three years would the memorial be completed. He explained that the act of Congress providing for the erection of the memorial specified that the work must be completed within four years from the time ground was broken at the start. Ground was broken February 12, 1914.

## Foundations Are Massive.

Senator Blackburn said that the foundation upon which the massive structure will stand had been so constructed that it could bear the weight not only of the memorial, but also that of the Washington Monument and the Capitol combined.

"One hundred and twenty-two steel tubes four feet in diameter were sunk from forty to fifty feet to bed rock and then two feet into the bed rock itself," said Mr. Blackburn. "These tubes were then filled with concrete. This constitutes the subfoundation, and the actual foundation rests upon it. A great amount of work remains to be done in the matter of terracing the ground around the memorial. There is to be a big circular terrace, in the middle of which the memorial stands, and this terrace will be 1,000 feet in diameter. The terracing will force Potomac drive 200 feet from where it now runs and will necessitate the filling in of a strip of what is now the river."

Mr. Washburn explained that beginning tomorrow the trees which will form the avenue from the memorial to the Washington Monument will be set out. This avenue will form a continuation of the trees planted today by the W. R. C.

### Agitated for Years.

For years the question of building a great national memorial to Abraham Lincoln in the capital was agitated in Congress, and many different plans for such a memorial were discussed. But it was not until February 9, 1911, that an act of Congress was finally approved by President Taft providing for the appointment of the Lincoln memorial commission to select a memorial to Lincoln and authorizing the expenditure of \$2,000,000. This was but the first step, however, and after the commission had selected a site and picked out the design for the memorial Congress had to place its approval upon the commission's action. The Lincoln memorial commission was aided in its work by the national commission of fine arts.

The approval of Congress for the erection of the memorial was not gained without many heated debates in which other proposed memorials were advocated, among them a Lincoln Highway from Washington to the battlefield of Gettysburg, Pa.; an arch on Meridian Hill, 16th street; Fort Stevens, five miles north of the city of Washington; a memorial bridge connecting Potomac Park and Arlington, and a memorial in Soldiers' Home grounds.

### Members of Commission.

The Lincoln memorial commission consists of former President Taft, chairman; Representative Joseph G. Cannon, former Senator George P. Wetmore, former Representative S. W. McCall, Speaker Clark, Senator Thomas S. Martin and Special Resident Commissioner Joseph C. S. Blackburn.

To aid the commission in the selection of a site and design for the memorial, Henry Bacon of New York and John Russell Pope, also of New York, architects, were selected to prepare designs. Mr. Bacon was requested to prepare a design for the site in Potomac Park, which was originally selected by the park commission more than a decade ago and approved by the national fine arts commission. Mr. Pope was requested to prepare designs for sites in the Soldiers' Home grounds and on Meridian Hill 'n 16th street. These designs were submitted to the commission in 1911, and after careful consideration and consultation with the fine arts commission, the Potomac Park site and design were selected. Mr. Bacon's design was adopted, and he is the architect in charge of the work.

The Potomac Park site was selected originally because it is on the axis of the Capitol and the Washington Monument, and therefore has an importance which no other site selected in the District would have. By means of terraces the ground at the site of the memorial

is to be raised until the floor of the memorial is forty-five feet higher than the present grade. In the center of the plateau of raised ground will stand the marble memorial hall.

### Features of Memorial.

The memorial as designed by Mr. Bacon will consist of four main features, a statue of Lincoln, a memorial of his Gettysburg speech, a memorial of his second inaugural speech and a symbol of the union of the United States. Mr. Bacon said in regard to these features:

"The most important object is the statue of Lincoln, which is placed in the center of the memorial. This portion of the memorial where the statue is placed will be unoccupied by any other object that would detract from its effectiveness, and the visitor will be alone with it.

"The smaller halls at each side of the central space will each contain a memorial—one of the second inaugural and the other of the Gettysburg address. These speeches will be shown by bronze letters arranged on a monument tablet, and adjacent low reliefs or decoration will relate in allegory Lincoln's great qualities evident in those speeches.

"Surrounding the walls inclosing these memorials of the man is planned a colonnade forming a symbol of the Union, each column representing a state—thirty-six in all—for each state existing at the time of Lincoln's death, and on the walls appearing above the colonnade and supported at intervals by eagles are forty-eight memorial festoons, one for each state existing at the present time."



# May Open Hall of Fame to Tree Planted as Lincoln Memorial

#920

WASHINGTON, Aug. 21.—The only tree known to have been planted in memory of Abraham Lincoln right after his assassination has been nominated for a place in the Hall of Fame for "trees with a history" which the American Forestry Association is compiling. A. S. Bailey, of Decorah, Ia., where the tree now stands, informed the association that the tree was planted by one John Finn, who is still living.

When Abraham Lincoln was assassinated Mr. Finn was in Chicago and he returned home much depressed. A few days later, on April 27, 1865, Governor Stone of Iowa declared a day of mourning for Lincoln. Finn went into the woods and dug up a small hackberry shoot which he transplanted on the street in front of his home. The shoot took root and today is one of the most magnificent trees in Iowa. It is 110 feet high and nearly twelve feet in circumference to which facts the American Forestry Association points as a great lesson in what can be done in tree planting.

# LINCOLN MEMORIAL TREE IN IOWA TOWN

## Hackberry at Decorah is Nominated for Hall of Fame.

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### Other Famous Trees.

The Daughters of the American Revolution, the Grand Army of the Republic and historical societies of the country are said to be reporting many other trees with a history to the American Forestry Association.

Other nominations for the Hall of Fame are:

The first algaroba tree in the Hawaiian Islands by M. J. Riordan of Flagstaff, Ariz. This tree seed was taken to Honolulu by Father Bachelot from California. There are now thousands of them in the Islands.

The General Johnston Oak on the Shiloh Battlefield by the Chamber of Commerce of Corinth, Miss. Under this tree General Albert Sidney Johnston was killed while leading his troops. The tree, now 300 years old, is cared for by the National government.

The Washington Oak near Santee, S. C., nominated by J. Danforth Bush of Wilmington, Del. The tree was spared from the ax when George Washington urged that it be not cut down. The tree is on the estate of Colonel Henry Rutledge.

### Live Oak in California.

The largest canyon live oak in California is believed to have been found by L. A. Barrett of the United States Forest Service near the Biddison Ranch in Bouquet Canyon on the Santa Barbara Forest.

The San Diego Mission Palm, nominated by T. P. Getz. This is the only one remaining of the four planted in 1769. Two were sent to the Chicago World's Fair in 1892 and a third was blown down in 1913.

The Blunston Oak, just over the Philadelphia line in Darby, nominated by Miss Ethel Austin Shrigley of Lansdown, Pa. This tree was mentioned in a deed in 1683 and from beneath it in 1777 Gen. Washington watched his army march from Philadelphia to Chadd's Ford.

The old Sassafras Tree at Harrisburg, now 208 years old, nominated by J. S. Hlick. It was 15 years old when John Harris, Jr., son of the man who found the Pennsylvania capital was born. The tree is 13 feet in circumference and 56 feet high.

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MEMORIAL TREE.

PLANTED BY.

JOHN FINN.

APR. 27th. 1865.

THE DAY SET ASIDE

BY.

GOV. STONE OF IOWA

IT IS 110 ft. HIGH.

AND 12 FT AT BASE

JOHN ST. DECORAH

● IOWA ●



EDINSTON  
WASHINGTON



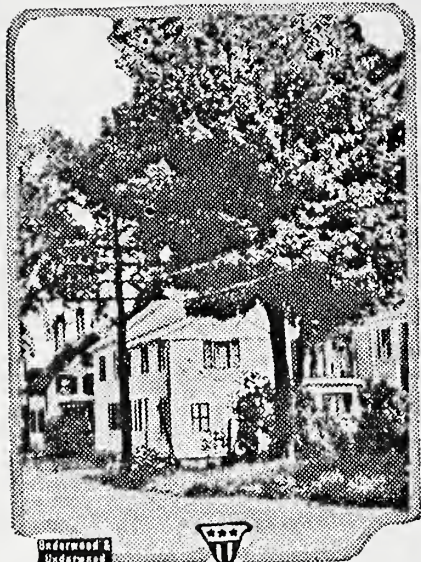
# MRS. WARREN G. HARDING PLANTS TREE

The wife of the President planting an American Elm, Monday morning Nov. 7th at the head of what will be an international avenue of memorial trees on the grounds of the Lincoln Memorial. The famous tree planting trowel used by Mrs. Harding was returned for this ceremony, from Canton, Ohio and South Bend, Ind. where it was used for memorial tree planting at the tomb of William McKinley and along the Lincoln Highway. Immediately after the ceremony the trowel was sent to Chicago where the American Legion will plant several miles of a "Road of Remembrance" on Armistice Day.  
(Clinedinst from Keystone View Co.) C

1921

LINCOLN MEMORIAL TREE

1922



This maple tree, planted in his memory on the day Abraham Lincoln died, has been given a place in the hall of fame for trees with a history that the American Forestry association is compiling. The nomination is made by Mrs. Allen Partridge of Augusta, Maine, before whose home the tree stands. The tree was planted on April 15, 1865, by Mrs. Ruben Partridge.



# GIGANTIC TREE PARK MAGNET

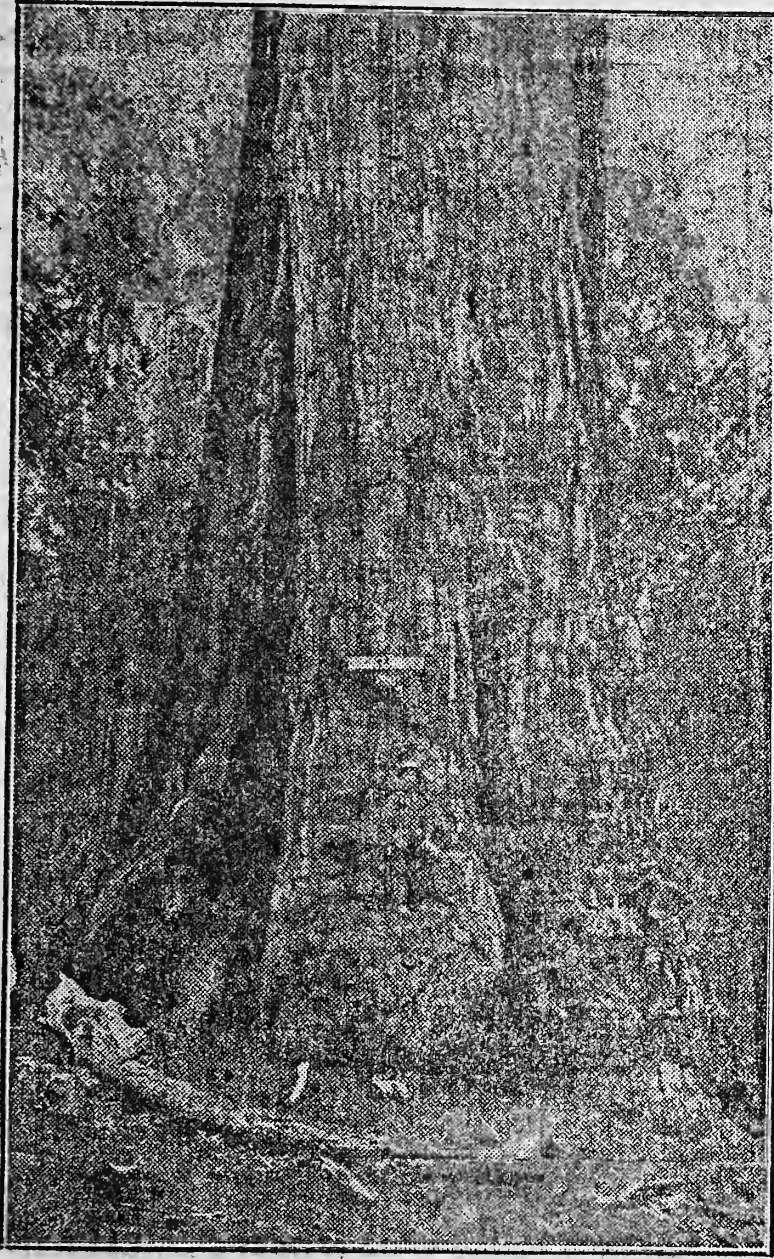
## 'Abe Lincoln' Rivals 'Sherman' Fame

GIANT FOREST, June 24.—General Sherman tree, on account of its great girth and height, has received the greatest publicity about the monster Sequoia trees in the Sequoia National park, but there is another tree in the forest that is worthy of mention and picture, and that is the Abe Lincoln tree on the Alta Meadow trail, about two miles from Giant Forest. As will be seen by the picture, the Abe Lincoln tree is rugged and a homely tree like its illustrious prototype. It is a tree that commands attention and holds it. It is not a pretty tree, as trees go, but it evidences all the homely virtues possessed by the Great Emancipator.

The tree is 31 feet in diameter and 270 feet high, only 9.9 feet less than General Sherman tree.

## *Towers Above Fellows*

Abe Lincoln tree in Giant Forest on the Alta Meadow trail which rises 270 feet high and is 31 feet in diameter, only 9.9 feet shorter than the famous General Sherman giant.



THE FRESNO MORNING REPUBLICAN, SUNDAY, JUNE 25, 1922.



# istration

## FAMOUS AMERICAN TREES



**XVI.—THE ABE LINCOLN TREE.**

The Abe Lincoln tree in the Sequoia National Park, California, is one of the largest and most beautiful trees in that famous playground. It is 270 feet high and 31 feet in diameter.



Washington - Mass. Society plant Memorial trees in Lincoln Reservation

# GOVERNOR OF MASSACHUSETTS AND 39 MAYORS FROM STATE TO WITNESS CEREMONIAL HERE

**Local Society to Plant  
Memorial Trees in Lin-  
coln Reservation.**

**3-DAY EXERCISES  
MANAGERS' PLAN**

**Elaborate Program Map-  
ped Out for Next May  
3, 4 and 5.**

WASHINGTON STAR 3-25-23

Massachusetts, represented by Gov. Channing H. Cox, mayors of thirty-nine cities of the Bay State and hundreds of its citizens, will be in Washington May 3, 4, and 5 to witness the consummation of a plan long contemplated by the Massachusetts Society of Washington, D. C., the planting of a row of forty trees on the Lincoln Memorial reservation, which will, from that time, be known as the Massachusetts Avenue of Memorial trees.

The society is a pioneer in the movement of having state societies here sponsor the idea of creating tree history on the Lincoln Memorial reservation, through its state officials. Although the season will be too far advanced for other states to follow the plan laid down by the Bay Staters, the coming spring next year is expected to witness several states preparing to establish similar avenues of memorial trees.

**Inaugurated Fifteen Months Ago.**

About fifteen months ago, George L. Cain, vice president of the society and chairman of the general entertainment committee, which is arranging the historic event, broached the plan of having Massachusetts represented on the reservation by trees from that state. Mrs. Warren G. Harding previously had planted what is known as the "Armistice Elm" and locations had been assigned to foreign governments who will plant trees over a stretch of ground to be known as the "Allied Governments Avenue of Memorial Trees."

Action on the plan, which was unanimously indorsed, was deferred at that time, however, because the Lincoln Memorial had not been completed and had yet to be dedicated. So the matter was allowed to stand until a more opportune time.

At the meeting of the society, November 21, 1922, a committee was appointed to be known as the "entertainment committee," and powers were given its chairman, Mr. Cain, to enlarge it and if necessary change the name. It soon became necessary to take both steps and at the February 8 meeting in the New Willard Hotel, authorization was given for the formation of a ladies' committee.

These two committees were completed and work was begun at once. At the present time virtually all plans have been completed and what has been characterized as a tentative program probably will stand in its entirety.

Col. C. O. Sherrill, officer in charge of public buildings and grounds, has set aside the land to be devoted to the memorial trees. The line of trees



HARRIS-EWING

Upper left—George L. Cain, vice president of the Massachusetts Society and chairman of the entertainment committee, which is bringing to Washington more than 1,000 persons, including the governor and mayors of thirty-nine cities of Massachusetts, for a memorial tree planting May 4...

Upper right—George A. Hernan, secretary of the society and a member of the general entertainment committee.

Lower left—Representative Frederick W. Dallinger, president of the Massachusetts Society.

Lower right—Mrs. Laura M. Wight, chairman of the ladies' entertainment committee.

will run from the Memorial shrine toward the golf course to the south and will be at an angle of 45 degrees with the axis of the reflecting pool. The trees, all to be brought from Massachusetts, will conform with the regulations requiring the trunks to be between six and eight feet high; the diameter between one and one-half and two inches and that the trees be straight and uniform in every respect.

Invitations have been sent out by the entertainment committee to Gov. Cox, speaker of the Massachusetts lower house; Benjamin Loring Young, the president of the senate; Frank G. Allen, and the following mayors: George A. Sweeney, Attleboro; George H. Whittemore, Beverly; James M. Curley, Boston; Frank

A. Manning, Brockton; Edward W. Quinn, Cambridge; Lawrence F. Quigley, Chelsea; Joseph Grise, Chicopee; Lester D. Chisholm, Everett; Edmund P. Talbot, Fall River; John B. Fellows, Fitchburg; Chester P. Pearson, Gardner; William J. McInnis, Gloucester; William D. McFee, Haverhill; John F. Cronin, Holyoke; Daniel W. Mahoney, Lawrence; Henry F. Sawtelle, Leominster; John J. Donovan, Lowell; Harland A. McPhetres, Lynn; John V. Kimball, Malden; Edward G. Simoneau, Marlborough; Richard B. Coolidge, Medford; Paul H. Provandie, Melrose; W. H. B. Remington, New Bedford; Michael Cashman, Newburyport; Edwin O. Childs, Newton; William K. Greer, North Adams; Harry E. Bicknell, Northampton; William A. Shea, Pea-



body; Charles W. Power, Pittsfield; Gustave B. Bates, Quincy; Thomas A. Noone, Revere; Dennis J. Sullivan, Salem; John M. Webster, Somerville; Edwin F. Leonard, Springfield; Leo H. Coughlin, Taunton; Henry F. Beal, Waltham; Louis L. Keefe, Westfield; Stephen S. Bean, Woburn, and Peter F. Sullivan, Worcester.

#### Nearly All Invitations Accepted.

Acceptances have been received from all but the mayors of Fall River, Gloucester and Waltham; but they are expected momentarily by Mr. Cain. It is believed that the heads of the two branches of the Massachusetts legislature will appoint delegations to come with the governor and mayors to the tree planting.

In all 1,200 invitations have been dispatched from Washington for the dedicatory ceremonial. The "official party" will comprise the governor and the thirty-nine mayors, but they will be accompanied by their wives, families and friends. Delegations from each city which will be represented on the memorial reservation will be present also.

A large number of Bay staters will arrive in Washington before the day set for the tree planting, but the official party and the remainder of those to visit the city will reach Washington on the Federal express about 8 o'clock Friday morning, May 4. The party will be met and received by the District Commissioners, a number of Massachusetts senators and representatives and officials of the society here. Escorted by a sixty-piece band, all will proceed to the New Willard Hotel, official headquarters, where those not members of the official party will register on the books of the society.

#### Trees to Arrive Same Date.

The forty trees, which will arrive at the same time, also will be in the procession. They will be carried in trucks, bearing banners of the cities from which they come, and will leave the official party at 14th and Pennsylvania avenue for the Lincoln Memorial. Holes will have been dug and the trees will be placed in them, ready for the final planting.

At noon the party will be transported in automobiles to the Lincoln Memorial. The dedicatory exercises then will be held and an address will be made by a prominent official, whose name has not yet been announced. Motion pictures will be taken of the mayors standing beside the trees they have planted and dedicated. All the trees will bear markers of the standard type, the name of the mayor, the city he represents and other suitable information in order that, in later years, they may be easily identified with the state of Massachusetts. There also will be community singing by a chorus of 100 voices and the state song will be sung.

At 2 o'clock the official party will be entertained at luncheon in the cabinet room of the Willard, by the business association of the city; and at 8:15 o'clock, the stellar social event of the three-day visit—a reception, entertainment and ball—will be held in the ballroom of the Willard.

#### Forecast of Magnitude.

Plans for this affair have not yet been completed, but the magnitude of the evening can be imagined from the following: Two huge electric signs, six and one-half feet in diameter, each containing 360 red, white and blue bulbs, are to be located at each end of the ballroom, one bear-

ing the words "Massachusetts, My Home Land," and the other "Massachusetts Society of Washington, D. C."; elaborate floral and electrical decorations and a subdivision of the ballroom floor into fourteen sections, each representing a county of the state. In these sections will be the mayors of those cities which are in the counties represented, who will receive members of the society and party-halling from those communities. The names of the mayors and cities will appear on banners at these sections and the seal of each city will be on other flags and bunting placed about the hall.

Saturday morning will be left to the visitors to dispose of in the way they choose, but at 1 o'clock they will be received by President Harding at the White House. An hour later they will appear at Fort Myer, where, through the courtesy of Secretary of War Weeks, an exhibition cavalry drill by Troop F will be held. At 6 o'clock the official party will be guests at dinner and in the evening the ballroom once more will be thrown open to entertainment. It had been planned to have the visitors attend a theater, but this was later changed and the local and professional talent will be brought to them at the headquarters.

A private view of motion pictures of the many activities of the mayors from the time they left Boston on the Federal Express will be afforded the guests Sunday morning at a place yet to be designated. A tour of the city and the suburbs will be made in the afternoon and Sunday night will find many of the general party returning or preparing to return to their homes.

#### Entertainment Committees.

The general entertainment committee, of which Mr. Cain is chairman, is composed of: Samuel M. Chase, treasurer of Newburyport, Mass.; Miss Margaret Jane McGurn, secretary of Braintree; Frederick W. Carpenter of West Medford; Albert Michaud, Worcester; Henry W. Syfrig, Boston; Miss Alice M. Murphy, Boston; Miss Harriet M. Cheney, Cambridge, and George A. Hernan, West Medford.

The ladies' committee, which was formed in the office of Representative Frank W. Dilling, president of the society, after the meeting February 8, follows: Mrs. Laura M. Wight, chairman; Mrs. M. Henrietta Smith, vice chairman; Mrs. Little M. Foss, secretary-treasurer; Mrs. John L. Hyde, Mrs. Sarah E. Beard, Mrs. Clarence W. Elliot, Mrs. P. H. Hunter, Mrs. J. D. Woodcock, Mrs. Mildred W. Syfrig, Mrs. M. Snow, Miss Grace G. Roper, Miss Mildred C. Woodcock, Miss Mary Goodyear, Miss Gladys Woodcock, Miss Harriet M. Cheney, Miss Marian Kendall and Mr. Cain.

To the ladies committee has been assigned the special duty of entertaining the women members of the large group expected here and they now, as in the past several weeks, have been hard at work arranging a program of amusement. In order to afford the visiting women everything of the best in the way of entertainment, the committee needs funds, so it has set about to get this money through the promotion of dances, card parties and other social affairs. A card party was given at Wardman Park Hotel Tuesday evening. There were seventy-five tables and a large number of persons present. The decorations consisted of electric emblems of the state of Massachusetts and the Massachusetts society. In addition to the card party, Miss Beva Fish gave an exhibition of fancy dancing and as

as encore, she gave an interpretation of Paylow's "Dance of the Dying Swan."

#### Dance at Arcade April 13.

April 13, the ladies' committee will give a dance at the Arcade private ballroom from 8 until 12 o'clock. They also have under consideration another card party and dance at the Roosevelt Hotel, April 27. The proceeds from these affairs go into one general entertainment fund.

Co-operating with these committees in entertaining the visitors will be nine civic organizations, including Rotary and Kiwanis clubs. Mr. Cain said yesterday that a valued worker for the celebration out of the city is James F. Gorman, who won a prize recently offered by the Boston Post for the most appropriate tribute to Massachusetts. Mr. Gorman's contribution, which took first honors, follows: "Massachusetts, respected for righteousness, esteemed for education, honored for humanity, lover of liberty, learned in law, leader in legislation, pioneer in philanthropy—that is Massachusetts."

The entertainment committee now is working on material to be published in the form of a souvenir program, and Mr. Cain welcomes any suggestions or contributions pertaining to Massachusetts; whether historical matter, poems or "jests and jingles." He said there were many things about Massachusetts of interest which had not crept into history. For example, he said that Massachusetts avenue was the "longest thoroughfare in Washington and that over the main entrance of the Lincoln Memorial was inscribed the name of his state.

#### State Represented in Government.

Mr. Cain also said that Massachusetts is well and ably represented in the government and administrative activities of Washington, her sons occupying many positions of prominence here. Some of them are: Calvin Coolidge, vice president of the United States; Frederick H. Gillett, Speaker of the House of Representatives; Oliver Wendell Holmes and Louis Dembitz Brandeis, associate justices of the United States Supreme Court; John W. Weeks, Secretary of War; William Phillips, undersecretary of state; Elliot Wadsworth, assistant secretary of the Treasury; Charles S. Hamlin, member of the Federal Reserve Board; Robert Putnam, Librarian of Congress; Thomas O. Marvin, chairman of the United States Tariff Commission; George W. Hess, director of Botanic Garden; Charles P. Smith, deputy commissioner of internal revenue; John Greene, deputy public printer; Edward G. Whall, foreman of plate-making division, government printing office; Irving F. Wixon, assistant commissioner of immigration; Robert Watson, director of bureau of industrial housing and transportation; Joseph H. Sheedy, vice chairman Emergency Fleet Corporation; Capt. Waldo E. Chapman, secretary of the District Rent Commission, and Dr. Frank W. Ballou, superintendent of public schools.

All contributions toward the souvenir book should be sent to Mr. Cain at 3232 19th street northwest. Telephone Columbia 4067-J.



9 May '23  
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Mayor Curley Speaks.  
He was followed by Mayor James  
Curley of Boston, who, on behalf  
of the people of Boston, dedicated a  
new named, "City of Boston, James  
Curley, Mayor."

Prior to the tree-planting ceremony of exercises were held. Rev. Jason Noel Pierce, pastor of the First Congregational Church, at 10th and G streets, opened the meeting with prayer. Representative Frank W. Ballinger, president of the Massachusetts Society of Washington, under whose auspices the tree-planting was held, made a short address and introduced Senator Henry Cabot Lodge, who welcomed the mayors to Washington. Mayor Curley responded for the mayors and then Lieut. Gov. Fuller lauded Lincoln and explained the purposes of the tree-planting ceremony. The entire assemblage sang "America" and "Massachusetts My Home Land," accompanied by the Army Band. Rev. Pierce closed the meeting with the benediction.

to the "stoned" do it, small part  
tribute to that great American, Abrah-  
ham Lincoln, what is more, getting  
than that you shall plant Mas-  
achusetts elms along with I shall be  
no more a "stoned" than any one of  
my "real trees" in the fervent hope  
that generations to come may pause  
to rest them with their hands on  
the trunk of the rough bark, and  
not to view "stoned" as the "stoned"  
marble tumpie with a determination to  
to emulate those who have found in  
noble qualities a life that made it  
life an inspiration to a noble life.

Lieut. Gov. Fuller introduced Lincoln declaring "no other man in our nation's history so fully represents the people and the spirit of America as does Lincoln."

**Arrival of Delegation.**  
The party from the Bay state, numbering more than 100 men and women, arrived at the Union station at 7:15 o'clock. After breakfast at the station they assembled at the southern end, where Commissioner Rudolph, spokesman for the District, officially welcomed the guests to the capital. "We are sorry," he said, in his brief address, "that we can't give you the key to the city because we haven't any. Washington is as much your city as it is ours. But we are going to do the best we can to make it the best for you."

The party from the Bay state, numbering more than 100 men and women, arrived at the Union station at 7:15 o'clock. After breakfast at the station they assembled at the southern end, where Commissioner Rudolph, spokesman for the District, officially welcomed the guests to the capital. "We are sorry," he said, in his brief address, "that we can't give you the key to the city because we haven't any. Washington is as much your city as it is ours. But we are going to do the best we can to make it the best for you."

With Commissioner Rudolph were Commissioner Oyster, acting Engineer Commissioner Maj. Benson, Isaac Gans, president of the Chamber of Commerce, and the following from the Board of Trade: Arthur Carr, secretary; John R. Conner, assistant secretary; Samuel M. Casper, George E. Kramer, E. J. Murphy, George Platt, L. Reeves, Carl J. Quentell, Wilmot W. Trew, Arthur Steinberg, D. N. Wolfe, Eon T. Webster, Francis R. Weller, Fred J. White and H. S. Taylor. The officers of the Massachusetts Society, Representative Daininger, president; George L. Cain, vice president and chairman of the general entertainment committee; George A. Fernan, secretary and Miss Harriet C. Cheney, treasurer, together with many members of the Massachusetts Society, aided in receiving the guests.

dress, that is  
of many small  
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with colored  
er dress is of  
cunningly re-

## and Wraps er's Arrival



July 1926

their long flights north or south, "chatting" and "broadcasting" songs while they stay. And how much more beautiful is this stately elm, which in cooperation with sun and moon weaves delicate and intricate shade patterns, than is any skeleton tower of steel! Fancy? Yes: but has the world no need for fairies and fancies such as played in trees and groves of old? Even now, sympathy and understanding, as reflected in love of leaf and treasure of tree, disclose in forest depths, and even in lone trees, naiads, nymphs and queens unknown to the peoples whose lives are cast in treeless spaces.

education, introduces modern health methods, increases physical well-being and gives a religion of faith and hope, good works and personal morality in exchange for one largely based on superstition which exhibits itself in deadening ceremonies.

**T**HE former Japanese ambassador to the United States, the Hon. H. Hanihara, said in America before his return to Japan: "Already the Y. M. C. A. in Japan has established its great value to the nation. Many Japanese of whom I am one, would certainly regard it a calamity if the work were compelled to stop. I earnestly hope that this generous and beneficent work may be carried on even more comprehensively in the future than in the past."

In the Philippines the American government has done some marvelous work. The association in the Islands has met with an enthusiastic response from all classes. I had a personal interview with Governor Wood who said: "There are some things the government cannot do. We need the Young Men's Christian Association extended through the islands as a greater character building institution."

The Hon. Manuel L. Quezon, president of the Senate of the Philippines, is also a firm believer in the association. He says: "The establishment of the Y. M. C. A. in the islands is one of the great blessings which America has brought to the Filipino people. I hope to see the steady growth of the association in the Philippines year after year. I believe that much of the progress achieved by the Filipino people during all these years of American administration has been made possible through the influence of this institution."

Twenty-five years ago a leading Chinese statesman said: "The Young



National Photo

Tree Planted In the Botanic Gardens by Abraham Lincoln



Sixteen Nationalities Represented at an International Boys' Camp in Switzerland

it started nation-wide campaigns of evangelism; it introduced work for laborers; it originated city-wide health campaigns against cholera and other diseases.

As a result of the introduction of the mass education movement into China by the Y. M. C. A., there are at the time more than 500,000 men and boys learning to read and write. These numbers will increase constantly. These thousands would remain in ignorance were it not that some organization cared and is willing to help.

Forty-two key cities like Peking, Shanghai, Hankow, Canton, Nanking, Hongkong and Changsha now have associations. Twenty have modern buildings. A staff of Chinese three times as large as the Ameri-

canizing and the best results in the Chinese and winning their confidence is shown by results. Tactful, judicious, able and free from indirection, the Y. M. C. A., manned first by Americans and now cooperatively with the Chinese, is the most influential force in China today, except the military which it silently combats."

**G**OOD will is the essence of sportsmanship, and America in recent years has been able, through its system of sports and play-for-all, to contribute to the development of a new spirit of friendliness among the young men of many nations. The association has been the pioneer of sports in many countries. It introduced athletic meets into China. Its physical directors not only organized inter-association meets, and established programs of play-for-all, but worked out international competitions which, for the first time in history, brought together contestants from many Far Eastern countries. Planned on the Olympic model, they have awakened interest in young men of the Orient who look hopefully to the Olympics as a goal.

The outreach of the American associations, as well as the recognized efficiency of their trained physical directors, is evident in the fact that wherever a national or international athletic meet is held, they usually have a part in it as organizers or technical advisers. The heads of provincial governments in India are today calling upon the association for physical directors to supervise the physical education in the schools within their domains and are helping to provide funds.

In physical education the last year in Europe stands preeminently.

Twelve of the nations which competed in the late Olympic games had as their official or advisory coaches or managers

(Continued on page 60)



These Basketball Champions of East China Represent the Shanghai Y. M. C. A.



Again, communities have been featuring the Lincoln National Forest in New Mexico. In 1923 not more than 30,000 people visited this forest; but in 1927 there were 108,000, and in 1928, 130,000. All of these activities have been carried through with the main purpose of attracting people to this section of the Southwest.

*Atlantic Monthly - 1929*





# *Living Lincoln Memorials*

*By*

LOUIS A. WARREN, Director

*Lincoln Historical Research Foundation*

*Lincoln National Life Insurance Company*

*Fort Wayne, Indiana*



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*AMERICAN FORESTS AND FOREST LIFE*

*February 1929*

# Living Lincoln Memorials

By LOUIS A. WARREN

A CEDAR tree planted on the Lincoln farm in Spencer County, Indiana, is said to have been the first memorial to Abraham Lincoln. The great number of tourists who visited the spot stripped it of its branches years ago, however, and it was cut down and made into souvenirs. Trees are appropriate memorials of Lincoln as the formative years of his life were spent in the woods. His companionship with the trees is attested by the fact that it was his title, "The Rail-splitter," which helped to carry him to the White House in the campaign of 1860.

Lincoln, while President, told a visitor to Washington that he could remember but two landmarks in Kentucky, the state of his birth, when he left there at seven years of age. One was an old stone house, and the other "a great tree somewhere on Nolin River." There are a few residents of that region today who remember hearing of a famous old tree on Nolin River near Buffalo, but it has been down so long its location has been forgotten. Just recently, however, some authentic information about this tree has come to light. Dennis Hanks, the boyhood associate of Lincoln, wrote to one of his relatives in Kentucky on March 25, 1866, and among his many inquiries was this one: "Is the old Lunderner poplar a-standing yet? I was born within thirty steps of that tree in the old peach orchard." This is undoubtedly the tree which Lincoln remembered and it has not been difficult to locate the place where it stood. It was near the old mill site at Buffalo, on one of the branches of Nolin



The stone marking the peaceful spot at Lincoln City, Indiana, where Nancy Hanks Lincoln, great mother of a great son, rests.

More than a hundred years ago Abraham Lincoln, then a young boy, wept as his mother, Nancy Hanks Lincoln, was buried beneath the great boughs of age-old trees on the top of a small knoll.

The little knoll has been in possession of the State of Indiana for years, and the grounds and trees surrounding the grave have been adequately cared for. Today, however, an appreciative American public is planning for the restoration and perpetuation of the entire tract of seventy acres, including the log cabin site, that once provided for the boy Lincoln and his parents. Under the auspices of the Indiana Lincoln Union plans are well under way toward the restoration of the native forest and plant life that once surrounded this historic log cabin home, and its presentation to the public as a state park.

While Indiana is going forward with its noteworthy plan, a bill has been introduced in Congress by Senator Sackett and Representative Thatcher, of Kentucky, seeking \$100,000 for improvement and preservation of the land and buildings of the Abraham Lincoln National Park, near Hodgenville, Kentucky, where the Civil War President was born.—Editor.

River. It is difficult to imagine the enormous growth which these old trees achieved. In a copy of the *Western Sun*, published at Vincennes, Indiana, on July 28, 1828, a news item described one of these monsters: "Opposite the mouth of Salt River, in Harrison County, and on the land of Mr. Brasier, stands a sycamore tree which I measured on May 28, 1828. Present at measurement were Thanslay Rucker, James S. Prather and S. E. Crutchfield, gentlemen of intelligence and citizens of Louisville. The circumference one foot above base was sixty-five feet, with a hollow eighteen feet in diameter at the base. It was fifty feet high with top blown out." This article was signed by James Pickett. At this time Abraham Lincoln was working on the Ohio River, at the mouth of Anderson Creek, down the river a few miles from the mouth of Salt River. He probably saw this immense old sycamore which rivaled the Lunderner Poplar.

The old Lincoln Oak on the Rock Spring Farm, Lincoln's birthplace in Kentucky, is the only tree now living which looked down upon the nativity of the Civil War President. It is our most treasured living memorial of him. The tree is in a perfect state of preservation and one seldom sees a finer specimen of this age. The trunk has a circumference of nearly sixteen feet at a point six feet above the ground. The branches form a perfect canopy with a spread of more than one hundred feet. With proper protection this memorial should be good for at least another century.

As early as 1805 the tree had been marked as the be-



ginning corner of the three hundred acre tract which David Vance bought from Richard Mather. This was the piece of land which came into the possession of Thomas Lincoln, father of the President, on December 12, 1808. This tree was made the beginning corner of four other farm surveys, and it bore the two initials "D. V." In 1827 the tree was set apart from its contemporaries as described in a survey of that year: "To begin at a noted white oak D. V. Vance's Corner." Although the parents of Lincoln moved away from this farm when Abraham was but two years of age, it was under the shade of this tree, close by the cabin, where Abraham spent his first play days.

When Thomas Lincoln went to Indiana for the purpose of locating a claim, he gathered a pile of brush at the foot of another oak tree there, which was to show possession. It stands today at the southwest corner of section thirty-two, in township four, and range five, marking the piece of ground occupied by the



The old Corner Oak on the Lincoln Farm in Spencer County, Indiana.

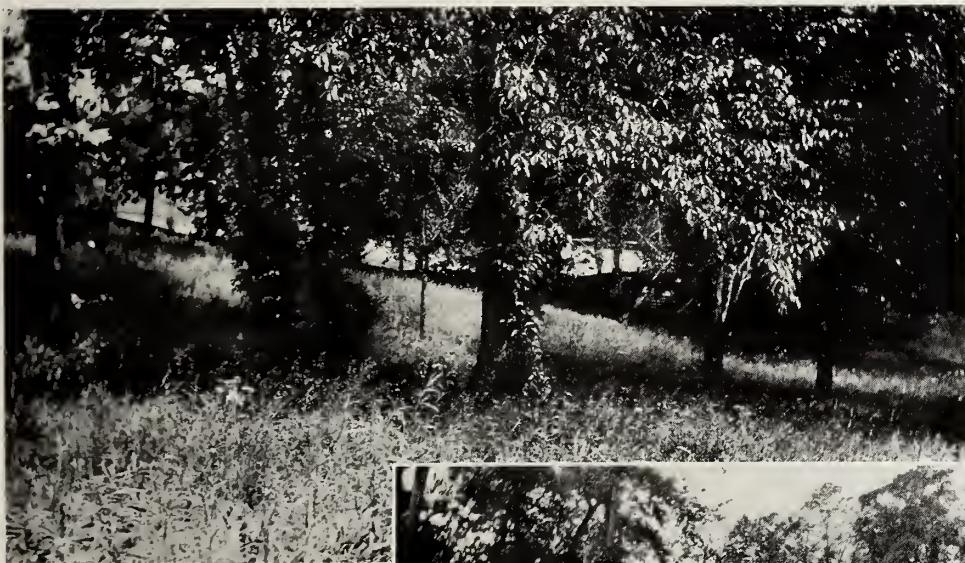
wood which he had prepared for the purpose. The Indiana Lincoln Union, which is sponsoring a plan to reclaim the President's Hoosier home and transform it into a state park,

Lincolns for fourteen years. Thomas Lincoln built his cabin facing this tree and the old corner oak in Kentucky must have been brought to mind many times while looking upon this new land mark. If it were not for other trees in Spencer County more closely associated with Lincoln, this old oak would rival the corner oak in Kentucky. The beauty of the tree is much marred, however, by the undergrowth which surrounds it.

Not far from the cabin site, and much more significant than the memorial cedar, which once stood close by it, is a magnificent elm. If the trees were "God's first temples," they were also God's first school-houses. Under the shade of this old tree Lincoln could have been seen on many occasions, reading Aesop's Fables or working out a problem in arithmetic, on the smooth surface of

consider this tree one of the most historic of the living Lincoln memorials.

Mr. Frederick Law Olmsted of Brookline, Massachusetts, has done much preliminary work in planning the recreation of the native forest and underbrush that surrounded the Indiana home of the Lincolns. The beautiful grove, which covers the hill where the President's mother is buried, is in-



Upper—A grove on the farm at Hodgenville, Kentucky, near the site of the Lincoln Cabin.

Lower—This magnificent oak, our most treasured living memorial of Lincoln, still stands on the Rock Spring Farm at Hodgenville, where he was born.





cluded in the park project. It will not be difficult to ascertain the kind of timber which flourished in Spencer County, Indiana, as early as 1816, for the report of a committee sent into the Lincoln country in Southern Indiana in 1814, states in part:

"The property is covered with heavy timber comprising oaks, beeches, ash, three kinds of nut trees three to four feet in diameter, with trunks fifty to sixty feet high—splendid material for all kinds of cabinet work—gum trees, hackberry, sycamore, persimmons, wild cherries, apples, and plums; also wild grapes of enormous diameter and height, all of which later bear fruit. There are also a large number of maple and sugar trees, from which great quantities of brown sugar can be made; sassafras trees from two to three feet in diameter and a kind of poplar. These have a very solid wood, good for boards, while in the lowlands one finds very large cypresses good for articles made by the cooper."

When the objective of the group now sponsoring the Lincoln memorial is attained, seventy acres of land will be available for development. The tract extends from the knoll where the cabin stood near the contemplated northern boundary to the knoll near the southern boundary, which contains the remains of Nancy Hanks Lincoln, and already in possession of the state. Thomas Lincoln's



The Cedars at Jonesboro, intimately associated with Lincoln's early life.

original holdings consisted of one hundred and eighty acres. He relinquished one-half of this tract after several years possession, so that the present plans for acquiring seventy acres will give an area very much like the Lincoln farm. A beautiful memorial shrine will be erected near the burial spot of Lincoln's mother.

There is a group of old cedars in Spencer County which also should be classed as living memorials of Abraham Lincoln. They mark the site of one of the early communities which greatly influenced Lincoln. Here at Jonesboro, Abraham Lincoln not only attended school but also clerked in a store. The cedars served as a protection for the school house and are about a century and a quarter old. Here, as a small lad, Lincoln played with the other children of the community. Later on, as a six foot-four

clerk, the future Civil War President weighed pork and talked politics with the customers in the store, that stood just opposite the school on the old trail leading to Boonville.



Upper—At this spot near Buffalo, Kentucky, stood the old Lunderner Poplar, which Lincoln, as President remembered.



Lower—One of the most beautiful of the green memorials to Lincoln is the great elm on the farm in Spencer County, Indiana, in the shade of which the boy Lincoln studied and played.



## TREES THAT LINCOLN LOVED AND RECALLED

### Cedar on Farm in Indiana Is Said to Have Been First Memorial to President.

A cedar tree planted on the Lincoln farm in Spencer County, Indiana, is said to have been the first memorial to Abraham Lincoln. The great number of tourists who visited the spot stripped it of its branches years ago, however, and it was cut down and made into souvenirs. These incidents are recounted by Louis A. Warren in a recent issue of *The American Forests and Forest Life Magazine*.

Lincoln, while President, told a visitor to Washington that he could remember only two landmarks in Kentucky, the State of his birth, when he left there at 7 years of age. One was an old stone house and the other "a great tree somewhere on Nolin River."

There are a few residents of that region today who remember hearing of a famous old tree on Nolin River near Buffalo, says Mr. Warren, but it has been down so long its location has been forgotten. Just recently, however, some authentic information about this tree has come to light. Dennis Hanks, the boyhood associate of Lincoln, wrote to one of his relatives in Kentucky on March 25, 1886, and among his inquiries was this one:

"Is the old Lunderner poplar standing yet? I was born within thirty steps of that tree in the old peach orchard."

This, Mr. Warren says, is undoubtedly the tree which Lincoln remembered. It was near the old mill site at Buffalo, on one of the branches of Nolin River.

"The old Lincoln oak on the Rock Spring Farm, Lincoln's birthplace, in Kentucky," continues Mr. Warren, "is the one tree now living which looked down upon the nativity of the Civil War President. It is our most treasured living memorial of him. The tree is in a perfect state of preservation and one seldom sees a finer specimen of this age. The trunk has a circumference of nearly sixteen feet at a point six feet above the ground. The branches form a perfect canopy with a spread of more than 100 feet. With proper protection this memorial should be good for at least another century."

"As early as 1805 the tree had been marked as the beginning corner of the 300-acre tract which David Vance bought from Richard Mather. This was the piece of land which came into the possession of Thomas Lincoln, father of the President, on Dec. 12, 1808. This tree was made the beginning corner of four other farm surveys, and it bore the two initials 'D. V.' In 1827 the tree was set apart from its contemporaries as described in a survey of that year: 'To begin at a noted white oak D. V. Vance's corner.'"

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"When Thomas Lincoln went to Indiana for the purpose of locating a claim he gathered a pile of brush at the foot of another oak tree there,

which was to show possession. It stands today at the southwest corner of Section 32, Township 4, Range 5, marking the piece of ground occupied by the Lincolns for fourteen years. Thomas Lincoln built his cabin facing this tree, and the old corner oak in Kentucky must have been brought to mind many times while looking upon this new landmark. If it were not for other trees in Spencer County more closely associated with Lincoln, this old oak would rival the corner in Kentucky.

"Not far from the cabin site, and much more significant than the memorial cedar, which once stood close by it, is a magnificent elm. If the trees were 'God's first temples,' they were also God's first school-houses. Under the shade of this old tree Lincoln could have been seen on many occasions reading Aesop's Fables or working out a problem in arithmetic on the smooth surface of wood which he had prepared for the purpose. The Indiana Lincoln Union, which is sponsoring a plan to reclaim the President's Hoosier home and transform it into a State park, consider this tree one of the most historic of the living Lincoln memorials."

REED

## HUGH TREE IN LINCOLN WOODS

PAWTUCKET (R.I.) TIMES  
Monday, July 22, 1929

## Huge Tree Stands in Lincoln Woods

Just in front of the Benjamin Arnold farmhouse, which was built in 1747, stands one of the most beautiful trees in the Lincoln reservation, a huge black walnut, measuring more than 13 feet in circumference, with a diameter of approximately four feet. The tree was probably planted for a shade tree soon after the house was built. Towering majestically skyward for more than a century and a half it commands the admiration of all who visit the Fireside House near-by and, as it is in excellent condition, it will probably continue to furnish shade and beauty for many years to come.

It nearly lost its life during the World war when black walnut for gun stocks was at a premium. The early signing of the armistice prevented the massacre, however, and it is hoped that no future war will make the sacrifice necessary.



## 5-26-30 PLAYGROUNDS

The resolution to be presented to the West Texas Chamber of Commerce asking endorsement of the Carlsbad Caverns and the Lincoln National Forest may be only a gesture, but it seems to us that it is rather an important one. True, the West Texas organization already in fact if not officially, has endorsed these two great natural wonders, but an official endorsement would call renewed attention to them.

A glance at the monthly statements of visitors at the Carlsbad Cavern shows that Texans predominate, outnumber even the visitors from our own state of New Mexico. Going through the Lincoln National Forest one meets many cars with Texas licenses. During the summer season it is a question if these do not outnumber the New Mexico licenses.

From these two facts alone we must draw the conclusion that both these natural wonders, so close to West Texas, are the playgrounds of that region, as well as of our own part of New Mexico.

Cloudcroft is overrun by people from El Paso and vicinity. The same thing is true to a lesser extent of the Ruidoso section. There are thousands of visitors in both these resorts each summer who own allegiance to Texas.

Eastern New Mexico, with its mountains and forest, its canyons and caverns, so close to the broad plains of Western Texas, necessarily must be the summer resort of those sections at least their nearest summer playgrounds. The heated plains will continue to send their residents to the cool mountains in increasing numbers each year.

It would be a graceful compliment and no doubt productive of much good if the West Texas Chamber of Commerce would officially recognize what is already an accomplished fact.

## WHAT ENDORSEMENT?

The West Texas Chamber of Commerce has endorsed the Carlsbad Cavern and the Lincoln National Forest as recreational centers and pledged to both the support of this great organization. This pledge is more than a mere figure of speech, for already the Texans have been flocking to both these great summer playgrounds in increasing numbers each year, and we have no doubt but that this increase will continue at a still greater ratio as the result of the resolution of endorsement.

This resolution, which has been printed in The Record several times, was the work of Ross L. Malone of Roswell and was introduced in the West Texas convention at Abilene by Robert Kellahin of Roswell. It is needless to say that Roswell is working for the growth of the attendance at both the Cavern and the Forest. This achievement speaks for itself. It is nothing new that Roswell is working for these two government charges, Roswell has been doing it for years.

There is more than a selfish interest in the work of Roswell men for the recreational centers of eastern New Mexico. It is true that Roswell benefits, both by reason of the travel through Roswell and by reason of the development of facilities in the Lincoln National Forest. But Roswell also realizes that the growth of all of eastern New Mexico is good for the state as a whole, and is good for Roswell. The interests of Roswell are interwoven with those of Carlsbad, Portales, Clovis and other parts of eastern New Mexico.

The thanks of all eastern New Mexico and of western Texas are due to Messrs. Malone and Kellahin and to those other unnamed men who aided in this movement of endorsement.

## STATE PRESS COMMENT

### WHAT ENDORSEMENT (From Roswell Record)

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OC Howard 12 - 22 - 31



Harris-Ewing Photo

NOT IDENTIFIED

**TWENTY YEARS AGO TODAY.**

State News—The Lincoln farm in La Rue County, including an impressive granite memorial hall housing the log cabin in which it was believed Abraham Lincoln was born, was formally turned over to the State of Kentucky at exercises at which President William Howard Taft delivered the principal address. Former Gov. Joseph W. Folk, of Missouri, president of the Lincoln Farm Association, spoke, entrusting the farm to the keeping of the State, and Gov. Augustus E. Willson accepted on behalf of Kentucky. Others on the programme were United States Senator W. E. Borah, of Idaho; Maj. Gen. John C. Black, of Washington, and Gen. John B. Castleman, of Louisville. Three thousand persons were present. A light rain fell during the exercises, which were held outdoors.

Robert J. Collier of New York, a leading mover in the preservation of Lincoln's birthplace, and Clarence H. Mackay of New York, treasurer of the Lincoln Farm Association, were among those in attendance. The association, organized by Mr. Collier, raised about \$383,000 to accomplish its purpose, and of this sum \$50,000 was set aside as an endowment for the memorial.

12/21/31

**Trees From Lincoln's Birthplace Are Planted On White House Ground**

Washington, Dec. 31. (INS)—Two white oaks from the birthplace of Abraham Lincoln at Hodgenville, Ky., were planted in the south grounds of the White House today with President Hoover wielding the spade. Another was planted in the capitol grounds.

Representative Thatcher, Republican, of Louisville, and Mrs. Thatcher presented the trees and witnessed their planting. DO NOT RECALC  
DO NOT RECALC

**President Plants Oaks From Lincoln Birthplace**

**One Put Near White House Office, Other in Grounds**

WASHINGTON, Dec. 31 (AP).—Two slim young white oaks from the birthplace of Abraham Lincoln near Hodgenville, Ky., were planted in the White House grounds today by President Hoover. He shoveled several spadefuls of earth about the base on one tree on the south lawn in full sight of the windows behind his office desk. The other tree was planted more than 100 yards away in the southeast corner of the White House grounds.

Several of the trees from the Lincoln birthplace were brought to the capital by Representative Maurice H. Thatcher, of Kentucky. With him today were Mrs. Thatcher, Representative Earl Vinson, of Georgia; Miss Adelaide Borah, cousin of William E. Borah, the Idaho Senator, representing the American Forestry Association, and James G. Taden, a former Kentuckian.

NY Herald Tribune

**NOW GROW!**

President Hoover plants a tree taken from the birthplace of Abraham Lincoln, at La Rue, Ky., in the White House grounds. Representative and Mrs. Maurice Thatcher, of Kentucky, donor of the tree, are watching.

DO NOT RECALC

**Hoover Plants 2 Lincoln Oaks At White House**

TWO WHITE OAKS from the birthplace of Abraham Lincoln at Hodgenville, Ky., were planted in the south grounds of the White House yesterday with President Hoover wielding the spade. Another was planted in the Capitol grounds.

Representative Thatcher (R.), of that Kentucky district, and Mrs. Thatcher, presented the trees and witnessed their planting.

12/22/31



## KENTUCKY TREES TO BE PLANTED HERE

Gifts from Farm Where Lincoln  
Was Born Will Have Three  
Prominent Locations.

Trees from the Kentucky hill farm where Abraham Lincoln was born will be planted tomorrow morning at the Lincoln Memorial, on the Capitol grounds and at the White House. Representative Maurice H. Thatcher, Republican, of Kentucky, who secured a \$100,000 appropriation some years ago to improve the Lincoln farm near Hodgenville, Ky., in La Rue County, is responsible for the gifts of the trees to Washington.

Three or four of the trees will be planted on the Capitol grounds, on the side near the Congressional Library, with Vice President Curtis planting a red oak and Representative and Mrs. Thatcher planting other trees. This ceremony will take place at 10 o'clock tomorrow.

At 11:30 o'clock, one white oak and one elm tree will be planted on the Lincoln Memorial grounds and then at 12:30 President Hoover and Representative and Mrs. Thatcher set out oaks on the White House grounds.

Representative Thatcher said yesterday that Lieut. Col. U. S. Grant, 3d., director of public buildings and public parks, and his staff; David Lynn, architect of the Capitol, and his staff, and White House authorities are co-operating in the tree-planting program.

QC STW

12-20-31

## THATCHER PLANTS TREES AT CAPITAL

Taken From Lincoln Farm  
At Hodgenville.

By LORENZO MARTIN.  
(The Times Washington Correspondent.)

Washington, Dec. 21.—Oak and elm trees from the Lincoln birthplace farm near Hodgenville, Ky., were planted here today in the grounds of the Capitol, the White House and the Lincoln Memorial.

With simple but impressive ceremony the first tree, a sturdy young red oak, was planted on the north or Senate side of the Capitol by Vice President Curtis, after which a number of other trees from the birthplace of Lincoln were planted elsewhere about the Capitol grounds by Representative M. H. Thatcher, Fifth Kentucky District, and Mrs. Thatcher.

About an hour later, additional trees from the Lincoln farm were planted about the grounds of the Lincoln Memorial near the banks of the Potomac River, and shortly before noon the party proceeded to the White House, where President Hoover participated in the third series of tree plantings. After the President had planted one of the trees a short distance from the south portico of the White House, Mr. and Mrs. Thatcher planted a few more in various parts of the White House grounds.

Col. U. S. Grant III, grandson of the union general of the War Between the States, planted the first of the trees on the Lincoln Memorial grounds. Others were planted there by the Louisville Congressman and his wife.

NOT  
IDENTIFIED

## CONGRESSMAN THATCHER AND MRS. THATCHER PLANT TREES ON THE WHITE HOUSE LAWN

WASHINGTON, Dec. 22.—Oak and elm trees from the Lincoln birthplace farm near Hodgenville, Ky., were planted here in the grounds of the Capitol, the White House and the Lincoln Memorial.

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NOT  
MAILED  
IDENTIFIED

## NOW GROW!

President Hoover plants a tree taken from the birthplace of Abraham Lincoln, at La Rue, Ky., in the White House grounds. Representative and Mrs. Maurice Thatcher, of Kentucky, donor of the tree, are watching.

### PRESIDENT PLANTS LINCOLN BIRTHPLACE OAKS



Associated Press Photo

Two slim white oak trees from Lincoln's birthplace near Hodgenville, Ky., were planted on the White House Grounds yesterday by President Hoover. The persons in the picture, in addition to the President, are, left to right—Mrs. Maurice Thatcher and Representative Thatcher, of Kentucky; Representative Carl Vinson, of Kentucky; James G. Yaden and Lieut. Col. U. S. Grant 3d.

## Lincoln Oaks Put in Soil at White House

Trees brought from the birthplace of Lincoln near Hodgenville, Ky., were planted yesterday by President Hoover and Vice President Curtis.

Two white oak saplings were spaded into the soil of the White House grounds by President Hoover. He shoveled several spadefuls of earth about the roots of one on the south lawn in view of the windows behind his office desk.

The Vice President shoveled soil around the base of a red oak which was planted on the Capitol grounds. The trees were brought from the Lincoln birthplace by Representative Maurice H. Thatcher, of Kentucky. He and Mrs. Thatcher planted an elm tree beside the Lincoln Memorial.

With the Thatchers yesterday were Representative Carl Vinson, of Kentucky; Miss Adelaide Borah, cousin of the Idaho senator, representing the American Forestry Association; James G. Yaden, civic leader in District citizens activities, and Lieut. Col. U. S. Grant 3d, director of Public Buildings and Parks.

12/22/31  
12/22/31



THE PRESIDENT PLANTS A TREE FROM LINCOLN'S BIRTHPLACE: PRESIDENT HOOVER  
Plants a White Oak Tree Sent From La Rue County, Ky., and Presented by Representative Maurice H.  
Thatcher.

(Times Wide World Photos, Washington Bureau.)

### Hoover Plants Oaks to Lincoln

Two young white oaks from the birthplace of Abraham Lincoln near Hodgenville, Kentucky, were recently planted on the White House grounds by President Hoover. He shoveled several spadefuls of earth about the base of one tree on the south lawn in full sight of the windows behind his office desk. The other tree was planted near the southeast corner of the White House grounds. These trees were brought from the Lincoln birthplace by Representative Thatcher, of Kentucky.

*American Forests July 1932*

*Courier Journal  
Louisville, Ky.*

*11-14-32*

### VISITORS AT LINCOLN FARM.

To the Editor of The Courier-Journal,

At the Lincoln Day celebration at Lincoln Farm this morning we had seventy-six cars and three trucks, bringing over 500 people. This reminds me of some of the attendance that has been given in the Point of View for the month of August last at Cumberland Falls and other places. During the same month I had the attendance taken at Lincoln Farm for twelve days. The average during the week was over 800. The average on Sunday was over 3,300. This was during the very hottest part of August and included two rainy days. Our total attendance for August was over 38,500. The attendance on Labor Day was 2,441 and 4,132 the day preceding. According to the reports I have received this was three times the number present on these days at other great points of attraction in Kentucky. More and more the people are coming to see the Lincoln Country of Kentucky: his birthplace, Hodgen's mill site, the Old Stone House, the Knob Creek home site, the old swimming hole, the situation of the first school he attended, the landing from which his father started for Indiana and the wonderful scenery of Knob Creek. Sincerely yours,

W. LEROY BAKER,  
Hodgenville, Ky.

12-27-31  
114 TIMES

ST 112 Dec 21 1931

# Lincoln Tree Graces Shrine

ELM FROM BIRTHPLACE PLANTED. 11/20/1861



WITH the Lincoln Memorial in the background, an elm tree and a white oak, secured from near the site where the cabin in which Abraham Lincoln was born stood, were planted this morning to honor his memory. Representative Maurice H. Thatcher, Republican, of Kentucky, presented the trees, which are from the Lincoln Farm, near Hodgenville, Ky., in La Rue County. This picture shows the elm tree being planted by Representative Thatcher, with Lieut. Col. U. S. Grant, 3d, director of public buildings and public parks; his assistant, First Lieut. F. B. Butler, and Mrs. Thatcher standing by witnessing the brief ceremony, which took place at 11:30 o'clock.

Vice President Curtis planted a red oak on the Capitol Grounds and Maj. Gen. John L. De Witt, quartermaster general of the Army, under whose jurisdiction the Lincoln Farm now falls; Mrs. De Witt and Representative and Mrs. Thatcher participated in planting the trees on the Capitol Grounds. An elm, which the Representative said is a descendant of the elm under which George Washington assumed command of the Revolutionary Army, was planted at the Capitol by Mrs. De Witt and Mrs. Thatcher. President Hoover planted a tree on the White House Grounds at 12:30.

Washington Post Dec 20 1931

## Trees From Lincoln's Birthplace Planted Here

Two small trees brought from the birthplace of Abraham Lincoln, in Kentucky, will be planted close to the Lincoln Memorial at 11:30 o'clock tomorrow by Representative Maurice H. Thatcher, of Louisville, according to an announcement by Lieut. F. B. Butler, assistant director of public buildings and public parks. The trees are a white oak and an elm.

Bids have been called by the Office of Public Buildings and Public Parks to move a number of trees around the memorial because of construction.

WASH POST 20 Dec 1931





East Capitol Street were destroyed a few months ago when the steam tunnel was put through between the new Supreme Court building and the Library of Congress. It reminds one of the fate of the Signal Oak, which stood on the elevation at Wisconsin Avenue and Massachusetts Avenue. When the latter street was cut across Wisconsin Avenue, the tree was cut down and the "bump" removed. The tree was probably the largest in Washington, and from it during the Civil War the Union Army signal corps wiggled to the fleet in the river, or the troops on the Virginia shore. Also many people stood around the tree and watched the buildings of Washington burn to the touch of British torches in 1814. Pilots in the days of Georgetown's flourishing river commerce were wont to use it as a range mark in steering their course up the river from Alexandria.

The Botanic Garden has two smaller elms which were planted by Speaker Joseph G. Cannon, of Illinois, and Senator Foraker, of Ohio. These trees were seedlings of the Washington Elm at Cambridge, Massachusetts, under which General Washington took command of the Continental Army in 1775. Two wahoo or winged elms near the west gate were planted by two men of the name of Morrill, one, Lot M. Morrill, of Maine, Secretary of the Treasury under Presidents Grant and Hayes, and the other, Justin S. Morrill, of Vermont, who served forty-three years as congressman and senator.

An oriental plane tree, planted in 1862 by the Honorable Thaddeus Stevens, of Pennsylvania, was removed to the center of what in 1872 became Lincoln Park. The removal was necessary by reason of the overflowing of the Garden by the Potomac River in 1870. The tree attained a height of seventy feet in the park, but has since died.

Six of the trees in the oak line at the Garden are reminiscent of a by-gone day. A red oak stands as a memorial to Senator Steward, of Michigan; a European oak to Secretary of State Bayard; a swamp oak to James H. Pierce; a Spanish oak to Senator Conger; and to Congressman Hayes a rare species, a *Quercus aliena*.



One of the avenues of trees leading to the Lincoln Memorial, planted in honor of the Great American.

The one tree Mr. Smith is said to have cherished above all others in the Garden, and next to the Washington elm, is the Confucius tree, on the south side close to the conservatory. It is said that the acorn was given him by Charles A. Dana, editor of the *New York Sun* from about 1871 to 1899. It is known that Mr. Dana received it from a friend who,

while traveling in China, had picked up a number of acorns from beneath an old tree over the tomb of Confucius. The old tree was grotesquely bent after the manner of those miniature crystal and jade trees seen in the shops. The branches of the tree in the Botanic Garden are also bent, reflecting a culture practiced by the Chinese for thousands of years.

The tragedian, Edwin Forrest, and his friend, Colonel J. W. Forney, are memorialized in the two unusually fine specimens of bald cypress flanking the main walk south of the lily pool. On the south side on the walk from east to west, was a splendid European hornbeam, erroneously accredited to President Lincoln, but in reality planted by John A. Bingham. Three years ago, it was killed by gases from the swampy ground beneath the soil of the Garden. The famous Summer Tree was also a hornbeam. Older residents still speak of it as a magnificent tree that used to stand on the hillock east of the Senate portico. Workmen graded too near

its roots several years ago and it also came to grief.

Two cedars of Lebanon were sponsored and planted by Senators Hoar and Evarts, but only one survived. A species of *Cedrus atlantica* was planted in honor of the eminent French botanist, M. Vilmorin. Two acacias at one time grew by each side of the south door to the greenhouse, and one remains. They were plant-

ed at about the same period. One grew from the branch that was taken from the lid of the coffin of the martyred Garfield, and the other was a memorial tree planted in honor of that Masonic ritualist and poet, statesman and patriot, General Albert J. Pike.

Many other memorial trees were planted at the Garden, among them a Crimean fir for Congressman Holman, of Indiana; an Oriental plane tree for Congressman Voorhees,



Memorial trees on Sixteenth Street planted in honor of the men of the District of Columbia who gave their lives during the World War.



## Lincoln Debate Relics Sought

1932  
QUINCY (Ill.) March 19. (P)—

When they cut down the old linden tree under which Abraham Lincoln and Stephen Douglas debated many years ago they started something.

Requests poured in from many sections of the country for fragments of the tree to be preserved in historic collections. And there's plenty of wood to meet the demands. The tree was so large it took wood choppers four days to complete its destruction. Their object was to provide fuel for the unemployed.

February 12, 1941 La Crosse, Wis., Tribune

## Monument To Lincoln Death Stands In McGregor—A Tree

McGregor, Ia. —(Special)— McGregor has a tree commemorative of the "saddest day in American history."

It rears its great trunk and spreads its branches on Main street besides one of the oldest houses in the town.

In Civil war days, John Jarrett, a prominent young dry goods merchant of McGregor lived in the house with his wife. April 9, 1865, had come and gone, making the world glad with its great tidings of the end of the war. Mr. and Mrs. Jarrett, to give expression to their joy, decided to plant a peace tree beside their home. An elm sappling was brought down from the hills and on April 15 Mr. Jarrett set to work with his spade.

The steamboat ferryboat "Allamakee" which ran on the Mississippi between McGregor and Prairie du Chien, Wis. was seen coming around the island in the river with her flag at half mast.

There was no telegraph up the west side of the Mississippi in northern Iowa and Minnesota, and the ferry always brought the first news. A crowd gathered on the McGregor levee.

When within hailing distance the captain shouted that President Lincoln had been shot the night before and was dead. "A groan of horror went up from the crowd, and then too stunned to talk," as one of the number told the story afterwards, "we slowly separated to realize the awfulness of the calamity."

The word spread up Main street and reached John Jarrett just as he was tapping down the last dirt about his tree.

So the elm intended to have commemorated peace and joy, became a living monument to a great tragedy instead. It has grown to be a great, beautiful, wide-spreading tree.

McGregor people call it the "Lincoln tree."



# One of Historic "Lincoln Oaks" Victim of Storm at Equality

EQUALITY, Ill., Aug. 16.—(Special)—Time and again, Southern Illinois is reminded that Abraham Lincoln traveled its roads and byways and figured in the political life of its people.

It is a matter of history that he visited Shawneetown during his years of law practice and that he at one time, was owner of a farm in Gallatin county.

Lincoln history was revived a short time ago at Equality when one of the historical so-called "Lincoln Oaks" fell here, a victim of windstorm.

The two oaks, standing side by side for many decades on what was formerly known as the Robinson Mill, now property of L. S. Bonnell.

## 150 Years Old

The tree was 36 inches in diameter with a 30 foot spread. Rings shown in the stump, reveal the fact that it was at least 150 years old.

The trees were made famous and called the "Lincoln Oaks" after the year 1840. One hundred and seven years ago, Abraham Lincoln made political speeches during a three-day debate from a platform erected between and supported by the oaks.

In connection with the foregoing, the following excerpt, was taken from local recorded history:

"The salt springs around Equality had furnished the source of that essential in good housekeeping for many years.

"Much capital has been invested in the industry, and hundreds of workers were finding employment in the various forms of labor connected with the industry.

"Men of means and ability were identified with the salt works. Many of these men were also interested in politics.

"It was therefore the most natural thing to arrange political speakings at Equality.

## Made Voting Easy

"The constitution of 1818 made it easy for residents to vote in the elections. It was therefore decided to give the voters of Equal-

ity a three-day debate on the doctrines of the Whigs and the Democrats, and on the personal merits of 'Little Van' and 'Tippecanoe' Harrison.

"The Whigs were supported by Abraham Lincoln, who at that time was comparatively unknown in the South. But he was to have the help of young lawyer, Samuel D. Marshall, son of Shawneetown financier, a graduate of Yale university, and a candidate for presidential elector of the Whig ticket.

"It will help to clear up party interests in Gallatin county to know that in 1824, in the slavery contest, Gallatin was the third most populous county in the state being surpassed only by Madison and St. Clair.

"As in other and later campaigns, the 'personal contact plan' was considered good in Gallatin county. It was therefore thought the Whigs allowed Lincoln to have the advantages of a 'three day debate' in Equality.

"While there were addresses made from the public platform, there was also much time given to introductions, handshakings, story telling and private interviews. Equality was a labor center and

THE SUNDAY COURIER AND PRESS—EVANSVILLE, INDIANA—

SUNDAY, AUGUST 17, 1941

# LINCOLN LORE

Bulletin of the Lincoln National Life Foundation - - - - Dr. Louis A. Warren, Editor  
Published each week by The Lincoln National Life Insurance Company, Fort Wayne, Indiana

Number 680

FORT WAYNE, INDIANA

April 20, 1942

## MEMORIAL TREES

Arbor Day has called to mind many trees which have come to be considered Lincoln memorials. Not all of them were set out by Mr. Lincoln, some were giant trees before he was born, others by some peculiar growth in root, branch or leaf have called attention to the familiar profile of the President, while still others note some day, or mark some spot significant in Lincoln history. Inasmuch as Lincoln was known as "The Railsplitter" it seems as if trees do make appropriate Lincoln memorials.

### *The Birthplace Oak*

The old Lincoln Oak on the Rock Spring Farm, Lincoln's birthplace in Kentucky, is the only tree now left which looked down upon the nativity of the Civil War President. It is our most treasured living memorial of him. The tree is in a perfect state of preservation. The trunk has a circumference of sixteen feet at a point six feet above the ground. The branches form a perfect canopy with a spread of more than one hundred feet.

As early as 1805 the tree had been marked as the beginning corner of the three hundred acre tract which David Vance bought from Richard Mather. This was the piece of land which came into the possession of Thomas Lincoln, father of the President, on December 12, 1808. This tree was made the beginning corner of four other farm surveys, and it bore the two initials "D. V." in 1827 the tree was set apart from its contemporaries as described in a survey of that year: "To begin at a noted white oak D. V. Vance's Corner."

### *The Lunderner Poplar*

Lincoln, while President, told a visitor to Washington that he could remember but two landmarks in Kentucky, the state of his birth, when he left there at seven years of age. One was an old stone house, and the other "a great tree somewhere on Nolin River." Dennis Hanks, who lived in the community, wrote to one of his relatives in Kentucky on March 25, 1866, and among his many inquiries was this one: "Is the old Lunderner poplar a-standing yet?" This is undoubtedly the tree which Lincoln remembered. It stood near the old mill site at Buffalo, on one of the branches of Nolin River.

### *Spencer County Elm*

Not far from the Lincoln cabin site, in Spencer County, Indiana, there is a magnificent elm. If the trees were "God's first temples," they were also God's first school-houses. Under the shade of this old tree Lincoln and his sister undoubtedly read Aesop's Fables or worked out some problems in arithmetic. This tree is one of the most historic of the living Lincoln memorials, and is being carefully protected from insects and the elements.

### *The Indiana Cedars*

When Abraham Lincoln was a young man in Indiana he is said to have planted three cedar trees at his home. During the centennial year of Lincoln's birth in 1909 one of these trees blew down and Albert P. Fenn of Tell City, secured the tree from A. P. Rhodes. Mr. Fenn, who was a furniture manufacturer, had the trees made into canes and the following men were said to have received souvenirs made from the tree: William Howard Taft, Theodore Roosevelt, Henry Watterson, Robert Lincoln, Governor Marshall and Senators Beveridge and Shively.

### *Springfield Elm*

While it is often stated that Lincoln planted the elm tree at his home on the day he left for Washington to be inaugurated, this statement cannot be true because it is shown in a picture he had taken with his sons in front of the house, in the summer of 1860. On Friday night, August 17, 1906, a severe storm struck Springfield and the famous elm was blown over. There is a cross section of

the tree in the museum of the Lincoln National Life Foundation, authenticated by A. S. Edwards, then the caretaker of the Lincoln home.

### *Beech Broadside*

One of the most interesting memorials noting the election of Abraham Lincoln was discovered some years ago by Vincent Robbins, Jr., near Uniontown, Pennsylvania. Out in the woods one day he observed some strange markings on a beech tree. It was not difficult to make out the original inscription, although it had been made there over seventy-five years previous to its discovery. The tree had increased in growth four times its size in 1860, but the expanding letters and figures could be easily read. This is the unique announcement:

"1860 Nov. 9—Lincoln is elected—Great God."

### *White House Maple*

In October 1896, a severe storm swept over Washington causing great devastation among the shade trees. One tree which was blown down was known as the "Lincoln Tree," planted by the President shortly after he entered the White House. It was at the end of a row of trees nearly all of which were planted by Presidents. The tree was a maple and grew much more rapidly than the other trees and its great size was largely responsible for its destruction, as there was none higher to protect it. A part of the tree was made into souvenir canes and the stump was allowed to remain, in hopes that it would branch out again.

### *Assassination Trees*

Governor Stone of Iowa declared April 27, 1865, a day of mourning for Abraham Lincoln. John Finn, a citizen of Decorah, Iowa, went to the woods on that day and dug up a hackberry shoot and set it out in memory of the martyred President. In 1920 the tree had attained a height of 110 feet and was nearly 12 feet in circumference. On the very day of Lincoln's death, April 15, 1865, there was set out in Augusta, Maine, under the direction of Mrs. Ruben Partridge, a tree memorial to the martyred President.

### *A Portrait Tree*

For many years one of the most publicized natural memorials of Abraham Lincoln has been an oak tree near Albany, Georgia. It stands on the east side of the Dixie Highway, two miles south of Albany, near Radium Springs. This tree is seventy feet high and nearly seventy years old. When in full leaf its foliage makes a very definite profile of Lincoln. It has never been trimmed to accentuate the likeness.

### *Roots in Profile*

At Lawrence, Kansas, almost within a stone's throw of the University of Kansas, there stands a tree whose roots contribute to the memorialization of Lincoln. The roots extending some distance above the ground are so formed that when an arc street lamp is lighted in the evening the roots cast a shadow upon the lawn which makes a vivid portrait of the Emancipator, with all of his peculiar features correctly visualized.

### *Giant Sequoia*

About the same time that John Bidwell discovered the "Big Trees" of California on November 20, 1841, Abraham Lincoln was beginning to impress those with whom he was associated at Springfield, with the magnitude of his own place in the political arena of Illinois. He would have thought it strange, however, if he had been advised that one of the giant Sequoias was to be named for him. On the Alta Meadow Trail in Giant Forest there stands the "Abe Lincoln" tree which is 270 feet high and is 31 feet in diameter. Abraham Lincoln towered above other men of his day as the giant Sequoia caps the other trees of the forest.



Forest History Society, Inc. 360 Prospect Street, New Haven, Connecticut 06511

*Affiliated with*

YALE UNIVERSITY

*Marsh Hall*

*Telephone: 777-1109*

May 3, 1968

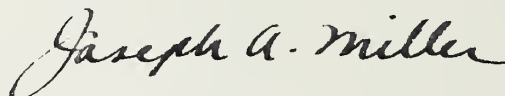
Mr. Bert Sheldon  
3315 Wisconsin Avenue #302  
Washington, D. C. 20016

Dear Mr. Sheldon:

In reply to your letter of April 23, we do not have very much information about ceremonial tree planting here. In *American Forests* (February 1932, p. 128) it says that President Hoover "recently planted" two young white oaks brought from the Lincoln birthplace farm by Representative Thatcher of Kentucky. We could not find any information about the Boy Scouts planting a tree in honor of Nancy Hanks, or the tree at the Lincoln Memorial.

We would be pleased to have you share any data with us that you find.

Sincerely,



Joseph A. Miller  
Associate Director

JAM:tgb

MAJ. GEN. U.S. GRANT, 3RD (RET.)  
101 COLLEGE HILL ROAD  
CLINTON, NEW YORK 13323

May 8, 1968

Mr. Bert Sheldon  
3315 Wisconsin Avenue  
Washington, D. C. 20016

My dear Sheldon:

You do think of the most difficult questions for me to answer, as by your letter of April 23, 1968. This inquiry relates to my having 37 years ago planted a tree, a white oak, and as to its exact location. During the eight years I was Director of Public Buildings and Parks and then the years immediately following and immediately before my holding that office, I had many trees moved and replanted, a great many (probably a hundred or more) were planted by members of various patriotic societies. Perhaps half of the trees outlining the drives in the Lincoln Memorial grounds were replanted because it was desirable to have all the trees immediately around the Lincoln Memorial of approximately the same size, and the only way to achieve that was to plant the trees that outlined the roads east of the Memorial with intervals between them only half the length that we wanted ultimately. It was possible then, when the roads had all been graded and improved, to move half of the trees, that is every other one, out of the intervals of the trees east of the Memorial and replant them west at double the interval that they had been before being moved. This gave a very satisfactorily even size for all of the trees in the Lincoln Memorial grounds and with the same interval between them--a refinement which probably nobody ever noticed but it worked and avoided having trees of various sizes around the Lincoln Memorial which would have looked confused and as though they were just planted without a plan.



B. Sheldon

- 2 -

5/8/68

As I remember it the trees planted in the Mall were put in very much the same time and, while I do not remember how many went into the Lincoln Memorial grounds and the Mall, there were many more than I have kept the identification through the intervening years. The man who is now in immediate charge of the Lincoln Memorial grounds was not in any position at that time, he may even not have been an employee of the Park Service at the time, but I believe that Mr. Sutton Jett was probably in the section of the Park Service connected with the care and planning of the Lincoln Memorial grounds. While he has since retired if you can catch him in Washington he may have some recollection of what was done exactly and of where the records of the planting of that day are now kept. Of course the office organization is all different but there should be some record of any Memorial trees planted and where they were located. Too many entirely different projects have drifted through my poor head since then for me to have any definite memories adequate to answer your question. I do not even remember whether those trees around the Lincoln Memorial are white oaks but you might be able to find the whereabouts of the tree you are trying to locate by getting Mr. Jett's help in locating where white oaks were planted.

I was probably aware of where President Hoover planted his tree from the Lincoln Birthplace Farm, but do not remember the location. Again, Jett may know who was in the Park Service at that time or may be able to locate a person in the right position from the payrolls of the Park Service. Likewise, there may be a photograph or picture in the Columbia Historical Society's files of the planting by President Hoover. I suggest that you consult Mrs. Billings, the Librarian at the Historical Society. In those years the Star almost invariably published a picture of every event of that sort.

MAJ. GEN. U.S. GRANT, 3RD (RET.)  
101 COLLEGE HILL ROAD  
CLINTON, NEW YORK 13323

B. Sheldon

- 3 -

5/8/68

I believe that you know Mrs. Billings and she is a wonderful reservoir of information about such things or events, having fallen heir to Mr. Proctor's files and articles.

Many thanks for your offer of service. It is very likely that now you are retired and may have a little time to do such research for us that you can become a very valuable and helpful assistant for the Historical Society, as I know how thorough you are in your research. I shall take this subject up with you when I return to Washington towards the end of this month or the middle of next month, and maybe we can locate the historic white oaks.

With all best wishes,

Very sincerely yours,

*U. S. Grant 3rd*  
U. S. Grant 3rd

USG:RBS



9 May 1968

Dear Doctor Guale McMurtry;

I have your 29 April note in which you mention

"willing to pay Xerox charges; IF such are needed".

However; - tho I am sorry I cannot clearly be too sure that either you do or you do not

want the Xerox copies of several press stories of Trees planted here in DC (about which I recently wrote you). I do have on hand several <sup>such</sup> Xerox reproductions. If I'm not certain that you'd welcome having them. They are 25¢ each plus

Postage if you want them. Do you want them? I hope I'm not being too great a nuisance. (I guess it's because I have so <sup>much</sup> ~~little~~ time on my hands). Please make your Xerox copy of Jo Miller's letter and return the enclosed original to me - OK? Good wishes to you Best

SAT May 11th 1968

Dear Doctor McMurry;

THATCHER

The Kentucky Congressman Maurice Hudson, a Republican (from Ky) 1923-1933 is still living, age 78. I've spoken to him, over the phone.

It was he who shoved the Bill thru Congress to buy, improve, maintain (and financially support) Lincoln Birthplace Farm. He is quite clear in his mind, well oriented, modest and completely convincing in his statements. He ~~seems~~ obviously has a good memory of facts, incidents and details of the above transaction.

Lincoln Birthplace Farm sent him SIX (6) of those Young trees; - (six!) <sup>(all)</sup> (Elms and white Oaks). Two were planted at Lincoln Memorial, two on White House lawn, two on Capitol Grounds.



Continued; to Doctor R G McMurtry

P II

11th May 1968

The two on Capitol Grounds: one died soon after transplanting, the other ~~was~~ "disappeared" when the <sup>(TUNNEL)</sup> tunnel was put in between Capitol and RAYBORN H.O.B. (probably cut down and hauled off, as it stood at SW Corner of Capitol Bld; ~~and~~ ~~where~~ where the tunnel is located.)

Frisby Mayo

I walked patiently around Lincoln Memorial searching ~~for~~ for an Elm-tree <sup>with</sup> ~~having~~ a small Concrete <sup>"MARKER"</sup> (about  $3\frac{1}{2} \times 3\frac{1}{2}$  (or 4) and about 4 inches tall) ~~the~~ and Bronze plaque (shaped like a policeman's shield and) imbedded into the small Concrete "post" or stanchion) I could not find it. I'm 70  $\frac{1}{2}$ s old now, I became quite tired and had to quit - However, I shall go again. ~~and~~ I haven't the slightest - Bit of ~~anticipation~~ anticipation of locating the Elm planted by Gen Grant and M H Thatcher MC.

Continued to Doctor McMurtry

P III

11th May 1968

I did find the "Memorial-tree area", that was too easy; tho there were a number of "WWII Markers" trees and one of ~~them~~ <sup>THE-40</sup> ~~was~~ <sup>was</sup> not on here by maps of Mass; those above trees are well marked and easily identified. However - Even tho I do not expect to locate the Lincoln Birchplace Farm Elm I shall go again and patiently, thoroly search ~~again~~, just to be sure.

There are no Oak trees (none that I could see) at the Lincoln Memorial, whether it died or whether it was moved I have no way of knowing. But to the best of my ability to see and recognize an Oak I found NOT one.

I have absolutely no information about the Elm from Lincoln Birchplace Farm which was planted on White House lawn by Mr TITCHER and his wife. I believe definitely (and without any doubt whatever) the Oak from Lincoln Birchplace Farm is alive and well and is still on WHITE HOUSE lawn.



14th May 1968

P4

Continued to Doctor R G McMurtry

my phone Call to Mr Cnp Parer Landscaping Dept  
was taken by 2 very pleasant, Cooperative  
persons. I enjoyed talking to both of them, they  
were - (as much as they could be) Taper to the of  
Help. Loyola Collier is an unmarried woman  
I'd judge from her voice to be no older than  
perhaps - maybe 40 (and very probably younger). She  
must know her business or they wouldn't have  
said "Oh, You must talk with Miss Collie,  
she'll Help You". The other person <sup>was</sup> ~~the~~  
(I think ~~the~~) the Boss; Everett Sawyer.

Sawyer said we'd come Help ~~the~~ <sup>the</sup> Search; but that would  
be foolish in as much as he has a large force to  
supervise <sup>and therefore</sup> ~~the~~ has other and ~~more~~ <sup>more</sup> relatively important  
~~other~~ duties and professional responsibilities to take <sup>care</sup> ~~of~~ <sup>of</sup>.  
So I searched about, ~~and~~ got tired, and  
had to quit, but not before I became discouraged  
as to the prospects of finding the Em. (No oak)

11th May 1968

P5

Continued; to Doctor McIntyre

actually, I suspect (very much) the Elm may very  
probably be there. But, all the many-many trees  
I saw - all are Elms. The Elderly Hon Mr  
TITCHER tried to describe the location where the  
Elm was planted; and, he is <sup>VERY</sup> likely correct. The  
real trouble is in identifying the right tree, -  
(unless it was a "mauve".) I ~~could~~ could find  
plenty of trees, ~~and~~ in the area Hon Mr T  
describes - ~~all~~ all are Elms, but no L.B.F.  
markings on any of them.

I think we are <sup>completely</sup> out of luck on the 2 L.B.F. trees at  
Lincoln Memorial; That doesn't mean <sup>however</sup> I won't keep  
trying; I shall indeed; and, - I shall inform You of  
the results of my next (~~more~~ thorough) effort.



11th May 1968

PG

when I was searching for data on the alleged  
Masonic Mt Lincoln I visited the Scottish Rite  
Temple at 16th + "5" St. NW. Doctor Carla <sup>LISZKOWSKI</sup>  
at Scottish Rite was pleasant and agreeably  
cooperative. the Hon Mt at 1801 16 St NW resides  
across the street from the Temple. Mt's scrap  
book <sup>is</sup> in the Temple library and Hon Mt says  
certainly Librarian Carter will be completely  
agreeable and cooperative <sup>THAT I MAY EXAMINE THEM</sup> therefore I shall expect  
to find Louisville Courier Journal clippings  
pasted into Hon Mt's scrapbook ~~which~~ <sup>which</sup> tell  
the story of Mt and <sup>LKF</sup> his trees. Do you wish  
to spend a small sum to Xerox these clippings  
if I find them?

Miss Collier (see p 4) told me (I've been in DC since 1921, I had no  
recollection of the map (or plaque) if I ever saw it I was very  
completely forgotten it) Mrs C told me that at the very south  
<sup>PART</sup> of the circular-fence around White House Grounds  
- inside the fence - close up, so as to be clearly readable  
was a map (or plaque) showing the location, species,  
and by whom planted, of trees on White House Grounds. I went  
there and saw it.

11th May 1968

p-7

Continued, to ~~Doctor~~ <sup>Dr</sup> McMurtry

I was extremely pleased. The white oak <sup>INDICATED</sup> planted  
By Mr Hoove was listed, ~~and~~ ~~as to its~~ <sup>its</sup> location on the Grounds, species, and by whom  
planted. I could not see the tree, too many other trees  
between the outside of the fence where I was  
and the location of the white oak; near S.W.  
Corner of the W.W. Building.

I am reasonably certain, I am completely  
satisfied, that the Lincoln Birthplace Farm  
white-oak mentioned in the newspaper  
clipping I "came across" in Washington D.C.  
of DC public municipal library; and in  
Erle Kauffman's Book on "Washington (the <sup>and the</sup> ~~main~~ <sup>the</sup>  
City) and Trees" is unquestionably the same WHITE  
HOUSE white-oak mentioned to me over the phone, by <sup>Mr</sup> ~~hon~~ <sup>hon</sup>  
T, and listed on the White-House <sup>MONUMENT</sup> plaque-map.

(I'm sure of it.)  
reasonably



11th May 1968

P8

CONTINUED TO DOCTOR McMURTRY

Have you the latest Book Catalog from Ill U,  
at Urbana - <sup>(zip code)</sup> 61801-7. There are several AC down  
listed in it which you may want for your  
Bibliography L.L.

I am taking the liberty of enclosing Gen Grant's  
letter ~~to me~~, in reply to my inquiry re the  
newspaper story of his planting a tree at Lincoln  
Memorial - I asked "which tree is it (and) can  
it be identified?" You may wish to Xerox  
Gen Grant's letter for your file on <sup>"LINCOLNESIC"</sup> ~~Lincolnesic~~  
trees, <sup>tree</sup> planted in his honor and memory.

I have an idea that Doctor Powell and I shall  
visit the Hon Mr TWATCHER on Tuesday, if so  
I shall report further to you. OK?

as Ever, Cordially, Bert.

are you going to Ling Commencement June 9?  
(I may quite possibly be there) B.

Sheldon

May 14, 1968

Mr. Bert Sheldon  
3315 Wisconsin Avenue, #302  
Washington, D. C. 20016

Dear Bert:

I have your two letters and the letters of Joseph A. Miller and U. S. Grant, LI regarding the planting of historic Lincoln trees in Washington. I have Xeroxed the Miller and Grant letters for our files. Many thanks.

I have read your letters with interest and it looks as if you will get to the bottom of this problem. You mention elm trees. Is it possible that any of those you mention have escaped the Dutch elm disease. Thousands die in Fort Wayne every spring.

Any information you send us on trees will be new, as we have no material on the subject. However, did you know that Lincoln's favorite tree was the hard maple. I once made a speech on "Lincoln's Interest in Trees." I send you a Xerox copy.

You had better let us do the Xeroxing. We have little petty cash to pay Xeroxing charges and we can only pay bills when we receive an invoice.

Yours sincerely,

R. Gerald McMurtry

RGM:cmvr  
Enclosures



101 River

101 River

101 River

101 River

101 River

101 River

101 River

101 River

101 River

101 River

Thurs 23 May 1968

Dear Gerald Mc Mulley

I am somewhat concerned and surprised; Jim Kelchum's secretary (I think; White House Historian) called me, stating that the "Boy Scout tree" planted on White House Lawn was "planted the same day!" as the Hoover tree!

THE TREE WAS FROM  
The reference in Eric Kauffman's book to the "Boy Scout tree" (no foot note, no source indicated) was from an Early Illinois home of Lincoln; and, was planted in honor and memory of Nancy Hanks

- (1) That seems strange; Nancy Hanks never lived in Ill.
  - (2) Thatcher's memory is Excellent (he is not even slightly senile). He states clearly (very firmly) that he and his wife planted one tree, the same day it was planted the Oak, and I believe him.
  - (3) Thatcher has press clippings and snapshot photos to corroborate his statement
- I believe Thatcher. I doubt the Secretary's story very much.



However, there is nothing I can do about it; the  
Boy Scout Mag. Has not answered my  
Letter (about 5-6 weeks have gone by)

NEITHER

American Forestry Assn 919 17 St NW  
Society of American Foresters ~~1010~~<sup>1010</sup> 16 St NW  
Forestry Historical Society at 401 Ave

NONE of them have any information on the Boy  
Scout tree; and Erle Kauffman is still with  
Am Forest asso? See Gosh?

I could find NOTHING in "NY Times", index vols  
Nov<sup>th</sup>, "Congressional Record", index vols.

It seems to me Ketchum's office, Boy Scout Mag., and/or  
Kauffman himself should know "something" Instead  
all I get from White House Historian's office seems to me  
to be pure and complete error (unless THATCHER is  
completely wrong; and, I DON'T THINK he is).  
Cordially

PS #1  
Best Sheldon: my Best wishes for you having a safe,  
~~and~~ comfortable and satisfactory trip - Good luck.

PS #2 You may have the enclosed to 727 Street  
and good wishes.  
Annette  
with me

Dear Gerald

if there are as many as 5 dozen or more  
Lincoln Collectors, Historians, Authors are coming  
to LML please phone the Collect station to  
station after 7pm Zone 202 Woodley 64827 and  
I shall be Busy Coming-Coming! Oscar Smith  
will share his Room with me and he's renting  
a Car at Knoxville airport so that  
takes care of THAT.

I understand Lamar Rice Emphatically described  
the "Lincolnesque-flavor" (and/or reputation) of  
LML during his Presidency. So! (A) a Good many  
Author Historians and Big Collectors may have  
been discouraged from coming to LML <sup>Commencements</sup>  
and (B) gee Gosh! a lot of the ones I knew a few years  
ago are dead! Who will be then? That is  
important enough <sup>\$31.50 on way</sup> for me to go and  
enjoy being with for a couple of days



(Tim Ketchum)

White House Curator's Secretary called me this morning said that one of the Lincoln Birthplace farm trees known by TWATCHER is the "Boy Scout" tree: that presents complications. TWATCHER~~the~~ says he and his wife planted that tree. I shall soon have bargaining power with TWATCHER. I'm taking some photos reproduced. I told her if I shared my photos with her would she want me on White House Stationary saying that one of the TWATCHER trees is the "Boy Scout tree" and she said sure she'd be quite willing to do with well that's "chat"? I don't know who to believe Ketchum's Secretary or TWATCHER?

as ever?

Please respond very promptly Gerald

→ How may you <sup>advise</sup> ~~want~~ me to come

→ Advise me if you confess that the de Incautions (plus the many who are deceased and can't come) will reduce the desirability of my coming  
Best

Monday 27 May 68

Dear Gerald:

How is my turn to make a negative report?

(1)

I am sorry - with much regret I must admit  
I am 'given-up' completely expecting to locate  
(or attempting to locate) the Lincoln  
Memorial THATCHER - birthplace from tree.

The Enclosed (Herewith) copy of the Annual  
report of Public Works and Grounds

administration (in which is included a sub report  
(Elemental-part) part of the PWS' report. ~~which~~

(By FINE ARTS COMMISSION) I invite you attention to the list of <sup>THAT</sup> ~~the~~ Supplemental  
(Chapter) "portion" dealing with the trees  
at Lincoln Memorial. (1) Your own comment

of Dutch Elm Disease in Fort WAYNE (2) Grant's  
letter regarding the unfortunate and  
regrettably <sup>BUT</sup> necessary (and drastic)

Replanting program <sup>and</sup> (3) This horroful information  
drives the final knife-in-the-back thrust  
into any hope (I believe) of every finding  
the tree, what do you think, what do  
you think?



27 May Continued to Doc's Memory  
1968

P II

I'm sorry also - deeply and very humbly  
sorry to "give-up" on the "Boy Scout  
White House" tree. You see it's this way

(B)

I spent about 4 hours today at DC (downtown  
Main Branch) public library Local History Div  
maybe I'm completely in error; - In any event  
I came across <sup>only</sup> one, all too meagre reference, and

(B) only one reference (a bit more adequate) on that "Boy  
Scout" tree. I went back to Eric Kauffman's  
book and I could ~~find~~ NOT find any  
reference to the White House Boy-Scout tree. I  
did find reference to Boy Scouts planting  
a tree at Lincoln Memorial. I could not find  
<sup>ANY</sup> data (or reference) to ~~the~~ <sup>ANY</sup> Boy Scout  
Tree at White House. I'm not sure now  
whether I made incorrect copy - or there  
were 2 Boy Scout trees (perhaps different  
times. Or, whether I copied correctly and  
was unable today to locate the data I first  
copied. (I couldn't find it today.) (Monday)

27 May Continued to  
Doela Mc Murtry

Pitt

DND  
THE 2  
LINCOLN  
Memorial  
trees

So!! I'm thru (probably finally and completely)  
with the White House Boy Scout tree, until  
and unless some new data (or any new  
and additional information) comes along I'm  
not pursuing that one any further; ok?

negative Report; - right?

Oh by the way! I'm not thru yet on the  
Twitcher White House tree, what I knew  
is the correct present location; and if  
the tree alive and well? The Sect. of White House  
Landscaping - and Horticulture told me (on  
Phone) today He'd answer that in a few  
days. He added that is completely certain, ~~but~~  
it is <sup>But</sup> ~~he~~ <sup>he</sup> wants to check and ~~Recheck~~;  
to make sure he does have the right tree  
as Ever Best

Be Good





## LINCOLN MEMORIAL GROUNDS



THE State of Massachusetts placed forty trees on these grounds and they are known as the Massachusetts Avenue of Memorial Trees named from cities of that state.

The Liberty Tree was planted by Rhode Islanders to commemorate the 148th anniversary of that state's independence from Great Britain.

Two Memorial Elms, one for the Army and one for the Navy were planted by the American Forestry Association as a beginning of an international avenue.

A giant Boxwood Tree grew in the grounds of the Daniel Webster home and when that beautiful old place was torn down the tree was moved to the Lincoln Memorial grounds to be planted in Webster's memory, for beneath its branches he did much of his reading and writing.

A White Oak planted by the Boy Scouts of the District of Columbia in honor of President Lincoln's mother, Nancy Hanks is in the shadow of the Memorial. The tree came from the Lincoln homestead near Evansville, Indiana.

Individual memorial trees may be placed in West Potomac Park near the Memorial by relatives of ex-service men, with the permission of the District of Columbia.

...at Fourth and Shepherd Streets in Brookland  
in northeast Washington.

*Condition of English elms along Lincoln Memorial reflecting basin.*—At a meeting of the Commission held on December 20, 1935, the Secretary presented the following letter and report from Mr. C. Marshall Pinnan, Superintendent of the National Capital Parks, regarding the condition of the elm trees along the Lincoln Memorial reflecting basin, together with photographs showing the condition of these trees: *Report of Commission by Fine Arts*

In accordance with your verbal request I am enclosing a report of the condition of the English elms at the Lincoln Memorial reflecting pool. I am also attaching the 11 photographs which depict the condition of these trees. These photographs were made in 1929. It is requested that these photographs be returned for our files when the Commission has finished with them.

*Jan. 1, 1935 - Dec. 31, 1939*  
ENGLISH ELMS AT LINCOLN MEMORIAL REFLECTING POOL

Despite the excellent care and attention that has been given the approximately 250 English elm trees which form a border for the Lincoln Memorial reflecting pool and which are, from both a landscaping and horticultural viewpoint, one of the most important groups of trees in the National Capital Parks, the trees are apparently doomed to a comparatively short existence. This regrettable outlook prevails after every known means of preserving the trees has been resorted to by the park horticulturalists who have followed closely the advice of scientists of the Forest Pathology Division, United States Department of Agriculture, who, at the request of this office, have made frequent inspection of the trees and careful studies of their condition.

The trees were planted in 1916, prior to the excavation for the reflecting pool. The ground in which they were planted was in a moist soggy condition. This circumstance has undoubtedly been responsible for the failure of the trees to produce a substantial root growth, sufficient to provide necessary anchorage for the mature trees. At the time of planting the trees were securely guyed to prevent uprooting by severe winds, but as they grew larger and developed the compact heavy heads which are typical of their species, this guying of the trees, even with  $\frac{1}{2}$ -inch cable supporting the trees from four directions has been insufficient to support them. The trees are so devoid of natural anchorage that they fall easy victims to the elements, 20 of them having been toppled in a single storm.

Upon the advice of the Forest Pathologists of the United States Department of Agriculture, this office began in 1929, and has repeated at regular intervals since that time, a surface feeding of the English elms in an attempt to encourage a root growth in the firm soil near the surface. The method employed in this treatment is to apply a quick acting fertilizer in the area immediately surrounding the trees, extending out to the limit of their foliage spread. This fertilizer is placed 6 to 8 inches deep. The operation has been performed on all of the trees from time to time, and while it has succeeded in providing nourishment sufficient to afford the trees a satisfactory growth above the ground, it has failed thus far to produce root growth strong enough to hold the trees in place. Indeed, many of the trees which have been uprooted in recent storms had hardly enough root growth to fill a bushel basket while the trunks of the trees range from 10 to 15 inches in diameter.



THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

June 5, 1968

Dear Mr. Sheldon:

Following our conversation last week, I checked our records here at the White House and find that the two oak trees that we discussed definitely came from the Lincoln birthplace in Kentucky during the Hoover Administration, and were planted on the same day, December 21, 1931.

One of the trees was planted by President Hoover in an area near the President's office and is very much in evidence today as part of the lovely landscape enjoyed by the President and his family, Heads of States, and other important people who come here.

The second tree, planted by Maurice H. Thatcher, is located within the fenced area of the South grounds and viewed by the many visitors that wait in line to tour the Executive Mansion each day.

Trusting the above information will be helpful to you and with all good wishes,

Sincerely,



Irvin M. Williams  
Chief Horticulturist  
Executive Mansion Grounds

Mr. Bert Sheldon  
Apartment 302  
3315 Wisconsin Avenue  
Washington, D. C. 20016

MAY • 68





1. Bent-Sheep
2. mouse Hutcher
3. John Powell

Long mouse Hutcher  
Kentucky





## Class gives citrus tree in Abe Lincoln's honor

A tree for Abe Lincoln . . .

The 16th President of the United States has been honored with a national monument, speeches and parades, but perhaps never before with a citrus tree.

Seventh graders at Grace Court School, 800 W. Adams, thought a tree for Lincoln would fit in nicely with the city's new "Plant Citrus Trees for Me" program through which it is hoped 10,000 orange and grapefruit trees will be planted free of charge for residents in the inner city.

When Lincoln's birthday came this year, Mrs. Lucile Schoolland's class decided to take up a collection and donate a tree in his honor. The pupils chipped in \$2.50 for the tree and sent it along with a letter of explanation to The Arizona Republic.

"THE STUDENTS are always looking for projects and they thought this would be a good one," said Mrs. Schoolland. "Many of these kids are from the project area," she said. "We are trying to make them feel they can make a community contribution."

Mrs. Schoolland's pupils are pictured above. In the bottom row from left are Charlie Martinez, Hector Trujillo, secretary, David Tapia, Stephen Armenta, Jessie Rios and Tanya Kellum.

Middle row, from left are Janis Jones, Charles Allen, treasurer, Mike Ferguson, president, Leonard Clayton, Phil Mireles, Rosemary Jones, Charlene

Combs, Christy Wilkins, Fred Motten, vice president, Grady Grandberry and Mrs. Schoolland.

Top row, from left are Bennie Leana, Paul Andrade, Tony Stuart, Sandra Baca, Josephine Durand, Janet Johnson, Debbie Amaya, Laura Oggs, Ronnie Hinkle, Eddie Arvayo and James Carver. Not pictured are Sylvia Amayisca and Arleen Braxton.

Phoenicians who wish to donate should make their checks payable to the Civic Plaza Planting Committee, and adjunct of the Civic Plaza Business Association, and mailed to Trees, The Republic, Box 2406, Phoenix, 85002. Donations are tax deductible.

The trees will be planted in the area bounded by Roosevelt, Roeser, 35th Avenue and 48th Street for those persons who promise to water and care for them.

Instruction sheets on citrus tree care will be furnished by the agricultural extension department of Arizona State University.

More than \$4,000 has been donated thus far to the fund, which was started with a \$2,000 check from Valley National Bank. Harvard Hill, association president, said the goal of 10,000 trees can be reached "with help from church groups, civic clubs, business firms, women's clubs, fraternal organizations, school groups and individuals."

Grace Court School  
7th Grade Room 209  
Phoenix Arizona  
February 12, 1969

Dear Sirs:

Our class president read the article of "Plant a Citrus Tree for Me." We also saw the picture in the paper showing the committee behind this project.

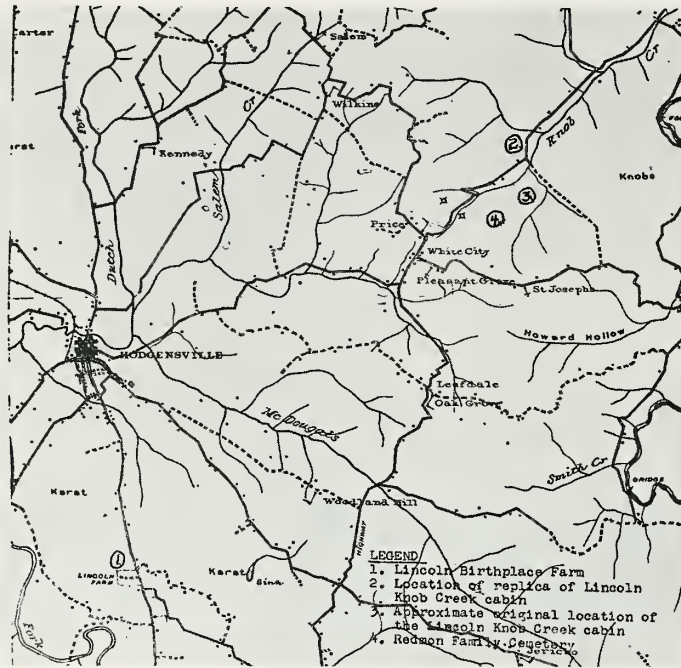
Our class decided to plant one tree.

We are enclosing \$2.50 and our class picture. We wish to dedicate our tree to Abraham Lincoln. Thank you.

Sincerely,  
Hector Trujillo  
Secretary

Mike Ferguson - President  
Fredrick Motten - Vice President  
Charles Allen - Treasurer





A section of a geological map of Larue County, Kentucky, showing the location of the Lincoln Birthplace Farm, the replica of the Lincoln Knob Creek cabin, the approximate original site of the Lincoln Knob Creek cabin and the Redmon Family cemetery. Many of the roads and highways on this map have been relocated.

coln National Bank at Hodgenville. There it remained for many months.

Soon this flurry of interest in Lincoln's brother's grave subsided, and only a few historians and biographers remembered the details of the discovery. Next, the W. P. A. discontinued its activities in providing relief work, and the cemetery quickly reverted to its wild, natural state with a lush growth of weeds, sumac, and sassafras. Also, the ownership of the farm was changed. Fred De Spain, who had received so much publicity as the owner of the cemetery, sold out and moved nearer to town. Also, the stone marker bearing the initials "T. L." was taken out of the bank vault and placed in a meat house. Little Tommy Lincoln's fame was short lived.

During the summer of 1945, I spent several weeks of my vacation in Kentucky, and, growing tired of inactivity, I decided to rediscover the grave of Lincoln's brother. Fortunately, I called at the law office of Judge Mather, who immediately realized that I could never locate the grave due to the relocation of county roads and the inaccessibility of the pioneer cemetery. Very graciously, he offered to be my guide, and, with my seven-year-old son, Stephen, we set out by car in quest of the grave, which was located approximately six or seven miles northeast of Hodgenville. Traveling as far on wheels as possible, we finally were forced to abandon our car and follow our course on foot. Even the Judge experienced some difficulty in keeping his bearings in this isolated country, but, eventually, we found the tobacco patch where R. Beauchamp

Brown, the present owner of the farm and cemetery, was at work, and, then, we knew that we had achieved our objective.

Upon examination of the cemetery, we found it a tangled mass of brambles and weeds, and, after locating the walnut tree which was our general marker for the identification of the historic spot, we sighted the crude stone that had been placed over the supposed grave. The original marker was still locked in the meat house, which we, unfortunately, did not see on this visit, but which we had seen earlier while the stone was being preserved in the bank vault.

Much to our disappointment, we found, too, that the log home of George Redmon, which had for several years past been used for a tobacco barn, had just recently been dismantled and the logs neatly stacked in one corner of the field. It is of interest to note that the original side-wall logs of the Redmon cabin measured from eighteen to twenty-one inches thick.

While trying to relive the historic scene that was undoubtedly enacted in this cemetery in 1811 or 1812, I could not help but think how the gods of chance had dealt so graciously with Abraham and, at the same time, had been so parsimonious with Thomas. At least, he made one contribution to his more fortunate brother. The mere fact that Lincoln had an elder sister and a younger brother silences the charges made by the President's political enemies that he was illegitimate. Then too, the earthly existence of the brother refutes the attacks made against the father, in regard to the President's paternity.

One conclusion we did reach, in our fatigued condition, was that the world will never beat a path to the grave of Thomas Lincoln, Jr.

## Lincoln Remembered A Stone House In Kentucky

When Dr. Jesse Rodman of Hodgenville, Kentucky, called on President Lincoln in Washington, D. C., in regard to Larue County's 1863 quota under the military draft, they conversed at some length about the area around Knob Creek where the President had lived from 1811 to 1816.

Lincoln told Rodman that two objects in Larue County "which were most impressed upon his memory were a big tree that was somewhere on South Fork and the 'Stone House.'"

Otis M. Mather in his book, *Six Generations of LaRues And Allied Families*: . . . , 1921, described the "Stone House" as follows: "The quaint dwelling, situated two miles east of Hodgenville, which was erected about the year 1800, with limestone walls so thick as to be suggestive of a fortification, is yet well known to the people of the locality by the same name which had lingered in the mind of President Lincoln. He probably saw it often in his childhood as he travelled between the Knob Creek home and Hodgen's mill."

The "Stone House" still stands on property once owned by Gustavus Ovesen and later by Claude Williams. The house is located two miles east of Hodgenville on the Bardstown Road (Route 31-E). While Otis M. Mather referred to the building as a dwelling, it might also have served occasionally as a fortification, a school house and a spring house.

A photograph of the Old Stone House was first published as a frontispiece in J. Rogers Gore's book, *The Boyhood Of Abraham Lincoln*, The Bobbs-Merrill Company, Indianapolis, Indiana, 1921.

Louis A. Warren in his article, *Living Lincoln Memorials*, 1929, made the following statement about the "great tree somewhere on Nolin River":

"There are a few residents of that region today who remember hearing of a famous old tree on Nolin River near Buffalo, but it has been down so long its location has been forgotten. Just recently, however, some authentic information about this tree has come to light. Dennis Hanks, the boyhood associate of Lincoln, wrote to one of his relatives in Kentucky on March 25, 1866, and among his many inquiries was this one: 'Is the old Lunderner (?) poplar a-standing yet? I was born within thirty steps of that tree in the old peach orchard.'"

Warren continued: "This is undoubtedly the tree which Lincoln remembered and it has not been difficult to locate the place where it stood. It was near the old mill site at Buffalo, on one of the branches of Nolin River. It is difficult to imagine the enormous growth which these old trees achieved."

# "LINCOLN OAK" WOULD HAVE TAKEN FIRST PRIZE IN TIMES-STAR CONTEST

At Least, That Is Opinion of Man Who Conducted Event.

By CHARLES LUDWIG

If you drive 2,000 miles from Cincinnati to New Orleans and back, you will see many great and mighty trees along the roadside—but you will find the greatest and most beautiful of all at Lincoln's birthplace at Hodgenville, Kentucky.

It is a colossal oak and one of rare symmetry and beauty—and it would no doubt have won the first prize in the Armleder-LaBoiteaux oak contest, recently conducted in the Times-Star, if it could have been entered.

Having visited and written articles about the great oaks of Hamilton County, the subject of trees was fresh in mind when the motor trip to New Orleans was made a few weeks ago.

All the great trees—oaks, sycamores, beeches and the rest—that were visible

from the road were carefully singled out and admired on the 2,000-mile trip. And, when you look for great and beautiful trees in Kentucky and the other States, you will be surprised how many you will see. Every mile or two brings some new treat for the eye—some aged survivor of the primeval forest that the farmers have left standing near the road.

## BETTER VIEW OF TREE

After the car was stopped to permit a better view of a great tree, but when Lincoln's birthplace was reached, there, in addition to the fine memorial building with its Lincoln log cabin, Lincoln spring and other points of interest, stood the greatest tree we had seen in the 2,000 miles.

Lincoln's Oak, as we called it, is a majestic tree standing about 300 feet in front of and toward the right of the Lincoln cabin.

There is a large, sloping lawn in front of the Lincoln Memorial Building and a walk of a minute or two over the lawn and beyond Lincoln's

cavelike spring leads to the giant oak at the edge of the lawn. A creek flows beside the tree and a stone wall has been built to protect it from any sudden great rush of water.

The oak was measured by spanning both arms around it at breast height. It took three spannings of the arms to encircle the tree, and its circumference at this height was figured roughly at about seventeen feet or more.

The greatest oak found in Hamilton County in the Armleder-LaBoiteaux contest measured seventeen feet one inch in diameter—the Arnold oak, on Kilby road near Harrison avenue, three miles from Harrison, O.

Lincoln's oak plainly had a much greater spread than the Arnold oak and reached to a towering height.

The Lincoln oak was symmetrical and beautiful, and while it was impossible to measure its height, it seemed to be a larger tree than any found here. No other tree seen on the 'Southern' trip compared with it.

## AT JACKSON'S HERMITAGE

Some great live oaks were seen at Andrew Jackson's Hermitage in Tennessee, and at the battlefield at New Orleans, the guide took us to the ruins of the ancient house where Gen. Packingham died after his defeat by Jackson. Here was seen what is probably the greatest and most beautiful double row of oak trees in America.

But no single tree seen on the trip could compare with the mighty and beautiful Lincoln oak.

We drank cold water at Lincoln's spring, just below his log cabin—and on arriving home saw an article by an iconoclast who threw cold water on the idea that Lincoln's log cabin was inside the Lincoln Memorial Building. He said that no one, not even Lincoln, knew exactly where Lincoln was born, and that Lincoln himself had written in a brief biography prepared when he was running for office, that he did not know where he was born except that it was somewhere along Sugar Creek, near Hodgenville, Ky. We were sorry to read this, and hoped it were not true—for we had become attached to the one-room Lincoln cabin, and also to Lincoln's great tree, and liked to think that its mighty arms sheltered him as a child.



*Interest In*  
LINCOLN'S TREES

People who love gardens, and the friendliness of trees, and the earth in spring, heavy with the odors of fruition, sometimes look to Abraham Lincoln as one of those mortals who shared with us, for a little while, the smack and tang of elemental things.

While little can be found concerning Lincoln's interest in flowers, he is said to have made this significant statement:

"I have always plucked a thistle and planted a flower where I thought a flower would grow."

On one occasion in his public career he mentioned in an address; trees, and shrubs, and fruits and flowers. This was on September 30, 1859 when he made the annual address before the Wisconsin State Agricultural Society at Milwaukee. In this speech, the only one he ever delivered on agriculture, he revealed a deep and sincere incite into the realm of nature and the field of science. He said among other things:

"And how vast and how varied a field is agriculture for . . . discovery! The mind, already trained to thought in the country school, or higher school, cannot fail to find there an exhaustless ~~s~~ource of enjoyment. Every blade of grass is a study; and to produce two where there was but one is both a profit and a pleasure. And not grass alone, but soils, seeds, and seasons--hedges, ditches, and fences--draining, draughts, and irrigation--plowing, hoeing, and harrowing--reaping, mowing and threshing--

saving crops, pests of crops, diseases of crops,  
and what will prevent or cure them--implements,  
utensils, and machines, their relative merits, and how  
to improve them--hogs, horses, and cattle, sheeps,  
goats, and poultry--trees, shrubs, fruits, plants, and  
flowers--the thousand things of which these are  
specimens--each a world of study within itself."

-----  
[ Abraham Lincoln loved trees.

Trees were friendly things.

As a youth, everywhere he went were the trees of the  
primeval forest--tulips, sycamores, oaks, elms, maples, beeches,  
and walnuts.

Trees made the flat boats that gave him passage down the  
Ohio and Mississippi Rivers.

Trees made the cabins that gave him shelter in bleak  
weather.

Trees fed the fire that gave him warmth, and lighted the  
pages of his books.

Trees made for him a bed of leaves.

Trees gave him the sugar of the maples, the brown nuts  
of autumn.

Trees drove out the mosquitoes with their pungent  
log-fire smoke.

Trees drove back the wolf and the panther with their  
glowing pine knots.



Yes, and trees made for him crude chairs, tables, beds, axe-helves, ox-yokes, cradles, coffins.

Trees gave him the rails of walnut and black locust.

His companionship with trees is attested by the fact that it was his title, "The Railsplitter," which helped to carry him to the White House in the presidential campaign of 1860.

Lincoln, while president, told a visitor to Washington that he could remember but two landmarks in Kentucky, the state of his birth, when he left there at seven years of age. One was an old stone house, and the other "a great tree somewhere on Nolin River."

It is believed the old tree that Lincoln remembered so well was a Lunderner poplar, located near an old mill site at Buffalo, Kentucky, on one of the branches of Nolin River. There are still living a few old residents in this Kentucky community who remember hearing of this famous giant tree, the name being a local term used to designate the English black poplar.

There is a friendliness of trees. We have lost something in this age of brick and steel and concrete. When he was a lad, it was primeval forest everywhere.

Have you ever been alone at night in primeval wilderness? There are not many places now where virgin ~~timber~~ stands untouched by axe and saw.

Lincoln as a boy knew of the patience of the stars, the calmness of the sleeping earth, the massive strength of mighty trees, the clean smell of the midnight air.

Little wonder that he remembered the Lunderner poplar on the branch of Nolin River.

Another ancient tree, which is the only one left that looked down upon the nativity of the Civil War President is the Lincoln corner oak on the Rock Spring Birthplace Farm in Kentucky. It is still standing in a perfect state of growth, and is one of the most treasured living memorials <sup>to</sup> of him. The trunk has a circumference of over sixteen feet at a point six feet above the ground. The branches form a perfect canopy with a spread of more than one hundred feet. As early as 1805, this white oak tree was marked as the beginning corner of the land which Thomas Lincoln, the father of the President, purchased on December 12, 1808. Although the parents of Lincoln moved away from this farm when Abraham Lincoln was but two years of age, it was under the shade of this tree, close by the cabin, where Abraham spent his first days of play.

Lincoln knew and could identify by structure, bark, and leaf every tree that was indigenous to the region in which he lived.

While he always remembered the great Lunderner poplar in Kentucky, the President's favorite tree was the hard maple.



Oddly enough, the hard maple was also a favorite of Stephen A. Douglas, the political opponent but personal friend of Abraham Lincoln.

To Lincoln, the hard maple had a quality of beauty that was always a gratification to his concept of what constituted a triumph of nature.

Trees make appropriate Lincoln memorials. On the grounds of the Valley Forge Chapel, there is a "Lincoln Corner." It was established in a remarkable way. Several years ago an English troupe playing "Abraham Lincoln" in Philadelphia, visited the chapel, and Dr. Burke held a service for them, they themselves acting as choir. They took up a collection which amounted to \$13. This they turned over to Dr. Burke, with the request that he use it as he saw fit. So he bought some small trees and planted them in that corner of the chapel ground where nothing else would grow. He named it "The Lincoln Corner," and today, they must be all of 30 feet in height.

A few of these living Lincoln Memorials were set out by Mr. Lincoln, some were giant trees before he was born, others by some peculiar growth in root, branch or leaf have called attention to the familiar profile of the President, while still others note some day, or mark some spot significant in Lincoln history. There are Birthplace Oaks

Spencer County Elms

Indiana Cedars

Springfield Elms

White House Maples

Assassination Trees

Portrait Trees





